

John. Geo. Hall

1888

OLD LINCOLNSHIRE WILL.

Councillor J. G. Hall, Hull, has an interesting Lincolnshire will in his possession, and has forwarded the following copy of it for publication:—

"In ye name of God, Amen. Ye vi daie of Decembre Anno Dom. 1601 in ye xlii year of ye reigne of our Sovereign ladie Elizabeth by ye grace of God of England Fraunce and Ire and Queene defender of ye faith of Christe. I William Wiggan of Snytherby in ye countie of Lincoln gentleman Purlie in Bodie but well in mynde and of good and expert remembrance God be blessed therfor do make and ordain: yis my last will and testament in manor and form following first I commend my Soule into ye hands of Jesus Christe my Creator and Redeemer and my Bodie to be Buried in ye Churchie garth of St. Marie of Waddinghame accordynge to ye disposithone of my executors and further my mynde and meaning is yt all other my former wills shall be revoked by yis now my last will and testament and further my mynde and will is yat Katherine my wife aforwise called Katherine Hall daughter of Thomas Hall of Hall End in ye parish of Walthamstowe in ye County of Essex gentleman shall have one messuage in which I now dwell and one dove rooste and forty acres of land now in ye occupation of Bnyard Toyne four acres and one one rool ye Dove Rooste is Builth upon one acre walled Round call ye Hall Garth one acre called ye Ingloste and ye close called ye Mow all in ye demise Containing by estimation fittie acres of pasture more or less viii Holtes of Oak trees vi of yem abutting upon a close of ye aforesaid Wm Wiggan and ye gorse common upon ye north side of a close of Tommy Gardeners and ye half of a close called Howill Dale renten of me by Tim Marsden 20 acres more or less. All that messuage called ye Hall and ye demise before vested in ye man of Snytterby to have and to hold in ye same messuage and all ye land before noted unto ye said Katherine my wife afor-said called Katherine Hall during her life natural and ye remaunde to go to my rightful heirs for ever according to a deed indentet made and appointed by me ye twenty daie of November now last past before ye date hereof unto Edward Hopkison and Edgar Rossiter to them and to their heirs and unto ye heirs of me ye said William Wiggan for ever. Item, my will and mynde is yat Edward Booth Wilim Booth Thos Booth Isabel ye wife of Wm Thompson and Elizabeth Booth shall have my fat stock amongst them to be divided immediately after my deathe ye remaininge stock to go to my right heirs Item I give to Isabel Thompson my servant one grey mare of 4 yeares old. Item I give unto Robert Lydyard my servant one younge grey joie. Item I give unto Matthe Wiggan and Thomas Wiggan my brother and sster of Ingham in ye countie of Lincoln three pounes yearly to be paid unto them out of my manor during their natrall lyves. Item my will and mynde is yt afte ye death of Katherine my wife ye said Matthe and Thomas Wiggan my brother and sister shall have 3 pounes more yearly during their natural lyves to be payde out of my lands which my wife holds in joyuter.

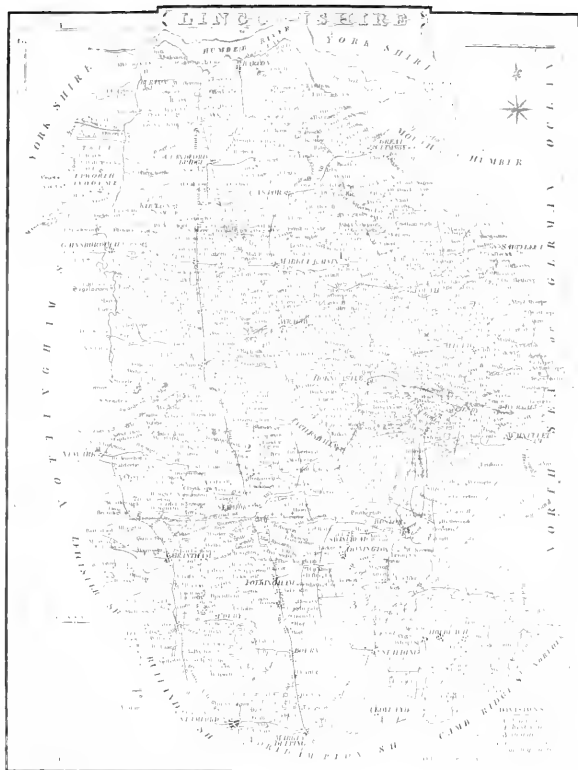
"Item my will and mynde is yat Robt Lydyart shall quitey and peaceably give up the messuage he now dwells in accordance with a lease heretofore annuled by him not payin his rent.

"Item I give to ye repaires of Snyterbye Chapel xlvj s. viid. Item I give to ye repaires of St. Marie's of Waddinghame vis viid. Item I give to ye Cathedrai Churchie of Lincoln vis viiid. Item I give to ye poore of Snyterbye vis viiid. Item I give to ye poore of Waddingham vis viid. Item I give to ye poore of Ringerbie vis viiid.

"Item I give to John Nevill my servant one yowe and a lamb to be delivered to him at May Daie next after my deathe. All ye rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable my debts paide and my lawyer satisfied and my funeral expenses paide unto Katherine my wife aforewise called Katherine Hall whome I now make full executrix of this my last will and testament and I do make Robert Tyrritt of Nettleton in ye countie of Lincoln and Edward Hopkison of Waddinghame trustees of yis my last will to see yt done accordinglie and I give to them ten pounes for their paymes. And revoking all others I declare yis to be my last will and testament.

"WILLIAM WIGGAN.

"Here being witnesses—William Yorke Henry Johnson John Smythe Thomas Horbie."



A
TOPOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL
Description
OF THE
COUNTY OF LINCOLN ;

CONTAINING

AN ACCOUNT OF ITS

TOWNS,	ANTIQUITIES,	PUBLIC EDIFICES,
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LINCOLNSHIRE.

I N D E X.

* * The Names of MARKET TOWNS are printed in small Capitals ; and those of *Villages* in Italics.

The principal Abbies, Castles, Churches, Encampments, Monuments, Pictures, Portraits, Priories, Roman Stations, and Antiquities, *described* in this Volume, will be found referred to in the Index under one of these Heads.

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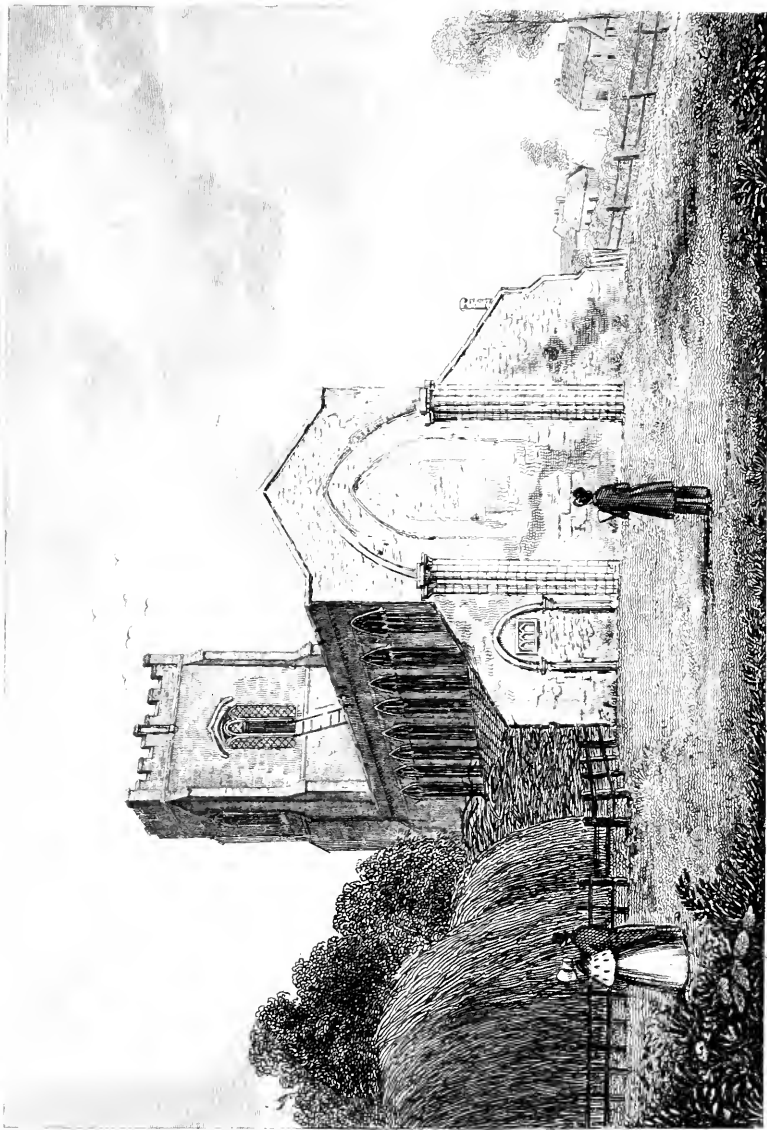
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 Wainfleet, anecdotes of Bishop, 719.
 Walscroft, wapentake, 692—694.
 Walsh, anecdote of John, 691.
 Warping, a peculiar mode of fertilizing soil, 587.
Well, barrows and church at, 716.
 Well, wapentake, 660—669.
 Welland river, 560.
 Whaplede, a Roman sword found at, 740.
 Whitgift, memoirs of Archbishop, 691.
 Willingham House, seat of, 694.
 Willis, memoirs of Dr. 655.
 Winnibriggs and Threo, wapentake, 764, 765.
 WINTERTON, a small town, the Roman station, *Ad Abum*, 678.
 Witham river, 560, 561.
 Worlaby, seat of, 681.
Woolsthorpe, coal discovered at, 765.
 WRAGBY, 704; charter, almshouse, chapel, and school, 705.
 Wragoe, wapentake, 703, 706.
Wyngal, 707.

Y.

Yarborough Camp, 685.
 Yarborough, wapentake, 680, 683.



LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE county of Lincoln presents to the topographer, antiquary, historian, naturalist, and agriculturalist, a theme replete with interest; and to each of these, the latter excepted*, it also unfolds a subject hitherto unexplored, and consequently full of novelty. Its topographical history having never been given to the public, renders it extremely difficult to collect into one focus the numerous rays of information that are now dispersed in various directions†; and to give a concise, but satisfactory account of the principal places, persons, and subjects, which peculiarly, and directly, belong to the county, is an arduous task; but it devolves to me as a duty, and I will endeavour to execute it in a manner satisfactory to myself, and to the liberal reader. The present history must, however, be very brief, as its limits are bounded by the volume, and that must not be disproportionably large. Hence, if I omit some places, or am not satisfactorily copious respecting others, I hope to experience the indulgence of those gentlemen of the county whose local partialities may have required, or anticipated, more circumstantial details.

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That

* On this subject we have had two large volumes; one entitled "*A General View of the Agriculture of the County of Lincoln.*" By ARTHUR YOUNG, 8vo. 1799. This was followed by another volume of about 440 pages, entitled, "*A Review of the corrected Agricultural Survey of Lincolnshire,*" &c. by THOMAS STONE, 8vo. 1800. This volume contains also, "An Address to the Board of Agriculture, a Letter to its Secretary, and Remarks on the recent Publication of Sir John Somerville and on the subject of Inclosures."

† At the end of the volume will be given a list of such books, &c. as have been published respecting the topography of this county.

That part of the British Islands now called Lincolnshire, was, anterior to the Roman conquest, possessed by a class of the Britons known by the name of *Coritani*, who have been already described in the third volume of this work. During the dominion of the Romans in Britain, this district was included within the province of *Britannia Prima*; and from the evident remains, and best published accounts, it is indubitable, that it was intersected by different roads, occupied by military stations, and some of its natural inconveniences removed by means of Roman science and industry. The exact number of stations, roads, and encampments, however, is not, I believe, ascertained; but the Rev. Thomas Leman, of Bath, who has particularly studied the Roman Topography of England, has kindly furnished me with the following information on this subject.

“The British *Ermin Street*, afterwards adopted by the Romans, enters this county to the west of Stamford, and, joining the north road, runs by *Durnomagus*, (Great Casterton,) and *Causennis*, (Ancaster,) through *Lindum*, (Lincoln,) and *in medio*, about fifteen miles north of it, to *Ad-Abum*, near the banks of the Humber. A second branch of the same street branches off from this road to the westward, about five miles north of Lincoln, and crosses the river Trent near Littleborough, the *Sege-locum*, and proceeds in a north-westerly direction to Doncaster, the *Danum* of Antoninus. A third branch of this road, separated from that first described, after crossing the Nen River in Northamptonshire, and ran in a straight line to Lolham Bridges; whence it probably continued, with the *Car-dyke*, all the way to Lincoln.

“Another branch left the Ermin Street, about six miles north of Stamford, and ran by Stenby, Denton, and Bottesford, towards *ad Pontem*, in its way to Southwell and Bantry.

“The *Foss*, beginning on the coast not far from Ludborough, is visible from *Ludford*, where was a station, probably *Bannovallum*, to Lincoln, on to *Crocolana*, (Bruff,) to Newark, &c. Besides these, there are also remains of other British track-ways; particularly

particularly one from *Horncastle*, which is supposed to have been a station towards Castor and the Humber. Another road, called the *Salt Way*, branched off from the Ermin Street, near Ponton, and ran by Denton into Leicestershire*."

Doctor Stukeley supposes, that another Roman road was made "from the northern high country," *i. e.* of the Fens, "about *Bolinbrook*, by Stickford, Stickney, Sibsey, and so to Boston river, about Redstonegote, where it passed it by a ferry. From thence to Kirkton 'tis indubitably Roman, being laid with a very large bed of gravel; and just a mile from the river is a stone, now called the *Mile-stone*, standing in a quadrivium; 'tis a large round stone, like the frustrum of a pillar, and very probably a *Lapis Milliaris*." In another place the Doctor says, "At Sleaford, I am inclinable to think another *road* came from *Banovallum*, or Horn-castle, to the east of the river *Bane*, southward by *Les Yates*, and so crossed the Witham by Chappel Hill and the Car-dyke, somewhere about Kyme. I think we need not scruple to assert, that *Ravensbank* be another ancient road, going east and west through the heart of the country, from *Tid-St. Mary's* to Cowbit. I have rode some miles upon it, where 'tis now extremely strait and flat. We have been informed, that 'tis actually in some old writings called *Romans-Bank*†." The stations, encampments, &c. directly, and colla-

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terally

* This has been already noticed in page 316. But Mr. Turner, in his "History of the Town and Soke of Grantham," furnishes the following additional particulars. "The *Salt-way* ran from the salt mines, at Droitwich, in Worcestershire, to the coast of Lincolnshire; entered Lincolnshire not far from *Saltby*, crossed the Witham at *Salter's-ford*, near to the town, or Roman station at Ponton. Besides the barrows, the dykes, the ramparts, called King Lud's intrenchments, on Saltby Heath, noticed in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, where Roman coins have been found, are five *Barrows* on the Lincolnshire side, in Woolsthorpe lordship, and two in the adjoining parish of Stainby, all within a little distance of this branch of the Ermine Street. A *Roman pavement*, also not far off, near Denton, and the Roman ruins near Stoke, mentioned in Nichols, &c. &c."

† *Itinerarium Curiosum*, p. 14, &c. Edit. 1724.

terally connected with these roads, will be described in the subsequent pages of this volume.

A great work of this county, generally attributed to the Romans, is the CAR-DYKE, a large canal, or drain, which extends from the river Welland, on the southern side of the county, to the river Witham, near Lincoln. Its channel, for nearly the whole of this course, an extent of about forty miles, (Dr. Stukeley says fifty,) is sixty feet in width, and has on each side a broad flat bank. The Doctor at first ascribed the origin of this great work to Catus Decianus, the procurator in Nero's time; and supposed that his name was preserved in the appellation of places, &c. in the vicinity of the Dyke. Those of *Catesbridge*, *Catwick*, *Catsgrove*, *Catley*, and *Catthorpe*, he adduced in support of his hypothesis; but having afterwards devoted some time and attention to the life of *Carausius*, the Doctor fancied he recognised part of the name of his hero in that of the present work. Thus some authors trifle with themselves and their readers by useless, and often puerile etymologies. Salmon, in the "New Survey of England," says, that "*Cardyke* signifies no more than *fen-dyke*. The fens of Ankholtm-level, are called *Carrs*." Doctor Stukeley also admits, that Car and Fen are nearly synonymous words, and are "used in this country to signify watery, boggy places." Car, in the British language, is applied to raft, sledge, &c. vehicles of carriage. This great canal preserves a level, but rather meandering course, along the eastern side of the high grounds, which extend in an irregular chain up the centre of the county, from Stamford to Lincoln. It thus receives, from the hills, all the draining and flowing waters, which take an easterly course, and which, but for this *Catchwater drain*, as now appropriately called, would serve to inundate the Fens. Several Roman coins have been found on the banks of this dyke. The whole of the present county is supposed to have been named by the Romans *Lindum*, and the principal station, or town, *Lindum-Colonia*.

During the Anglo-Saxon dominion of England, Lincolnshire

was incorporated within the kingdom of Mercia, which, according to an old chronicle quoted by Leland, was divided into two provinces, north and south; and as the Trent was the separating line, the county of Lincoln constituted a great part of *South Mercia**. Crida was the first Mercian sovereign, and began his reign in 586. At this time Mr. Turner supposed that the whole Island was governed by eight Anglo-Saxon monarchs; whence it should rather be denominated an octarchy than an heptarchy. During the establishment of these petty kingdoms, the Saxons were in constant warfare with the Romanized Britons; and after these were subdued, they were repeatedly embroiled in conflicts with each other. In the midst of these civil commotions Christianity was introduced, and gradually made its progress through the island. Peada, the son of Penda, was the reigning monarch here when this religion was offered to, and accepted by the South Mercians. This benign stranger gave a new turn to human pursuits, and soon diverted and engrossed the attention of the barbarous heathens. Peada founded a monastery at *Mederhamsted*, now Peterborough; and, according to Speed, governed all the middle part of Mercia, and, after the death of Oswy king of Northumberland, by gift, received all the southern part of that kingdom. This was only given on condition of his adopting the Christian faith; when he was also to marry *Alfreda*, daughter of Oswy. Peada was soon afterwards murdered, as supposed, by his wife †. “Edwin the Great, the first Christian king of Northumberland, conquered the counties of Durham, Chester, Lancaster, the Isle of Man, and Anglesea, carried his arms southward over the Trent, and obtained all the province of Lindsey. Paulinus, who converted him to Christianity, preached it wherever that King’s power

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extended

* Another chronicle says, that this kingdom was “departed into three partes, into West Mercia, Middle Mercia, and East Mercia: it contained the diocesses of Lincoln, Wircester, Hereford, Coventry, and Lichfield”

† Bede, lib. III. ca. 24.—Speed, 252.

extended. He built the cathedral of Southwell, a little west of Newark, baptized many thousands in the river Trent, near to *Tiorulfingacester*, and converted Blecca the governor of Lincoln *. This was about A. D. 630. The learned and pious Alkfrid kept his court at Stamford in 658. After the death of Oswy, King of Northumberland, Egfrid his son invaded Wulfere, and wrested from him the whole province of Lindsey, in Lincolnshire. This was about the year 673. In 677, he erected the Episcopal See of Sidnacester, in favour of Eadhed, who had been chaplain to his brother, King Alkfrid, of Deira. In A. D. 683, we learn from Ralph de Diceto, Eadhed left Lindissi for Ripon, where he remained till his death †. The South Mercian kingdom, and bishop's see, being thus established, we hear of but few other public events, 'till the incursions and pillages of the Danes. These free-booters were particularly active in this county, and committed numerous depredations on the monasteries, &c. *Ingulphus* has given a circumstantial account of

* Bede states, that Paulinus built a *stone church*, of notable workmanship, (*operis egregii*) in the city of Lincoln, the roof whereof being fallen to decay, or destroyed by enemies, left the bare walls standing alone. "In this place," he observes, "that every year some miraculous cures are generally wrought, for the benefit of those who seek the faith." Translation of Bede, Book II. ch. 16. In this work the city of Lincoln is particularly specified; but to identify the *Lincolcoline* civitatis of Bede with the present city, requires something more than assertion; for the place adopted by Paulinus for the erection of this *stone church*, was most probably the subsequent *Sidnacester*. In the same chapter our venerable historian proceeds to state, that a certain Abbot and priest of singular veracity, named *Deda*, told him he knew an aged person who was baptized at noon-day, by the Bishop Paulinus, in the presence of King Edwin, in the river Trent, *near the city*, which, in the English Tongue, is called *Tiorulfingacester*. This will be more particularly enquired into hereafter.

† Dr. Stukeley, in a MS. quoted by Dickenson in his "*History and Antiquities of Newark*," 4to. 1806. In this work the Doctor and Mr. Dickenson endeavour to prove that Newark is the Saxon Sidnacester.

of their cruelties in this part of the island, and Hearne thus translates the abbot's narrative. Early in the year 870, "the Danes took shipping, and went into Lindisse, in Lincolnshire; and, landing at Humberstan, spoiled all that country. At which time the famous and ancient monastery of *Bardney* was destroyed, the Monks being all massacred in the church without mercy. And when they had stayed there all summer, wasting the country with fire and sword, about Michaelmas they came into *Kesteven*, in the same county, where they committed the like murders and desolations. At length, in September, 870, Count Algar, and two knights, his seneschals, call'd *Wibert* and *Leofric*, (from whose names the people thereabouts have since given appellations to the villages where they lived, calling them *Wiberton* and *Leofrington*,) drew together all the youth of Holland, with a brave body of two hundred men, belonging to Croyland Abby, who were led on by one *Toly*, a famous soldier among the Mercians before his conversion, but now a converted monk of the same monastery. These taking with them about three hundred more stout and warlike men from Deping, Langtoft, and Baston; to whom also joined *Morchar*, lord of Brunne, with his strong and numerous family; and being met by the sheriff of Lincoln, named *Osgot*, a valiant and ancient soldier, with the Lincolnshire forces, in number five hundred more, mustered together in Kesteven on St. Maurice's day, gave the Pagans battle, and, by God's assistance, vanquished them, with the slaughter of three of their kings, and a great number of common soldiers: the christians pursuing the barbarians to their very camp, where finding a very stout resistance, night at last parted them, and the Earl drew back his army. But it seems the same night there returned to the Danish camp all the rest of the princes of that nation, who, dividing the country among them, had marched out to plunder."

The next morning, notwithstanding the weakness of their forces, the Christians again gave battle to the Danes; who being "exasperated at the slaughter of their men, having buried their three
kings

kings early in the morning at a place then called Launden, but afterwards, from this burial, *Trekingham*, four of their kings and eight counts marched out, whilst two kings and four counts guarded the camp and captives. But the Christians, because of the smallness of their number, drawing themselves up in one body, made, with their shields, a strong *testudo* against the force of their enemies' arrows, and kept off the horse with their pikes. And thus being well ordered by their commanders, they kept the ground all day. But night coming on, notwithstanding till then they had remained unbroken, and had withstood the force of their enemies arrows, whose horses being tired, began to flag; yet they very imprudently left an entire victory to the Pagans: for the Pagans feigning a flight, began to quit the field, which the Christians had no sooner perceived, (however their commanders forbade and opposed it,) than they broke their ranks, and, pursuing the Pagans, were all dispersed through the plain without any order or command; so that the Pagans returning like lions among a flock of sheep, made a most prodigious slaughter."

The Christian combatants being thus completely conquered, and nearly annihilated, a few youths of Gedney and Sutton contrived to escape to Croyland, where their afflicting news created much alarm and distress. The terrified monks, expecting an immediate attack from the sanguinary conquerors, instantly employed themselves in secreting and securing their sacred relics and valuables, some of which were thrown into the well, and some committed to the care of the youthful class of their community, who were impelled to seek self preservation in flight. Thus prepared, the old monks devoted themselves to prayer, from which they were roused by the flames of the neighbouring villages; and the clamours of the fierce Pagans drew nearer. The abbot, and they who were too young or too old to fly, assembled in the holy choir, hoping there to secure life; but the desperadoes rushed into the sacred place, and, with savage exultation, embued their swords in the bodies of the unresisting victims.

Every

Every part of the sanctified building was stained with blood ; and by the statement of Ingulphus, it appears that only one youth was preserved from the general massacre. The spoilers broke down all the tombs and monuments, with the avaricious hope of discovering treasures ; and on the third day, they committed the whole monastic buildings to the flames. With immense plunder, of cattle, &c. the barbarians marched the next day to Mederhamsted, or Peterborough, where they committed similar atrocities and barbarities ; and it is related that the monastery continued fifteen days in flames.

Though the horrible proceedings of the Danish marauders were so truly calamitous in their immediate operations ; and though language can only depict their repeated exploits, in the terms of plunder, murder, rape, famine, and distress ; yet these were the harbingers of national improvement and amelioration. The petty, jealous, and opposing kingdoms of the Anglo-Saxons, were compelled to confederate for mutual defence ; a consolidation of the different states arose, and during the greatest distraction of the realms, that amiable man, wise monarch, and skilful general, *Alfred*, was sent as a guardian angel to the country. He employed the energies of intellect to repel invasion, to discomfit the public and private enemies of the island, and to administer comfort to the distressed by wise and appropriate laws. After his firm establishment on the throne, the nation assumed a new aspect ; and after that felicitous event, its annals became more clear and enlightened. “ The sovereignty of Mercia, on the defeat of the Danes, fell into the power of Alfred. He did not, however, avowedly incorporate it with Wessex. He discontinued its regal honors, and constituted Ethelred its military commander, to whom he afterwards married his daughter, Ethelfleda, when her age permitted *.” This lady continued the command of Mercia after Alfred’s, and her husband’s decease ; and during the reign of Edward the Elder, it was found necessary to construct and fortify several places on the borders of Mercia joining Northumbria, particularly

* Turner’s “ History of the Anglo-Saxons,” Vol. I. p. 267 4to. 1807.

particularly on the banks of the Humber. On Ethelfleda's death, Mercia was incorporated with Wessex; but some places were still held by the Danes. Among these were the towns of Stamford and Lincoln, even so late as 941, when Edmund the Elder expelled them hence.

The transactions of the Church and See constitute the principal subjects of historical narrative respecting this county, 'till the conquest and subjugation of England by William of Normandy. Innovations of every kind were now introduced; and the whole property of Lincolnshire was distributed among his favorite followers. The authors of the *Magna Britannia*, give the following list of names and manors from the Domesday book. "To *Alan Rufus*, Earl of Britain and Richmond, he gave 101 lordships. *Odo*, Bishop of Bayeux and Earl of Kent, 76. *Waltheof*, Earl of Northumberland, 2. *Judith*, Countess of Northumberland, 17. *Robert Vesci*, 7. *William Mallet*, 1. *Nigil de Albini*, 12. *Robert de Stafford*, 20. *William de Percy*, 32. *Walter D'Eincourt*, 17. *Guy de Creon*, or *Crown*, 61. *Geisfrid Hanselin*, 15. *Ranulph de St. Valery*, 6. *William le Blound*, or *Blunt*, 6. *Robert de Todeness*, 32. *Ralph de Mortimer*, 7. *Henry de Ferrers*, 2. *Norman D'Arcil*, 2. *Alured de Lincoln*, 51. *Walter Bec*, 1. *Ralph Paganel*, 15. *Ernisius Burun*, 28. *Gilbert de Gondoro*, or *Gaunt*, grandson of Baldwin Earl of Flanders, 113." It will not be an easy task to specify the respective lordships thus distributed; and indeed it will be extremely difficult to identify the places where each of those Barons erected their castles, and established their habitations, &c.

Castles, Encampments, &c. The Maritime counties of England being more directly exposed to attack from invading armies and piratical plunderers; and in the early periods of our civil establishments, being more populous than the midland country, were, therefore, frequently exposed to the conflicts of warfare; and hence it is found, that these districts abound with military works and castles, or castellated mansions. Besides the permanent

ment stations of the Romans in Lincolnshire, they threw up castlements in different places ; to guard the vallies, protect their great roads, and defend the mouths of the rivers. In the continued wars between the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, these were again occupied by those people ; and, after the Norman conquest, some of the most commanding were adopted by the conqueror's captains, and barons, and then became heads of extensive lordships. To describe or discriminate them, is, and ever will be impossible, for documents are wanting, and the innovations of the latter occupiers generally obscured, or annihilated all traces of their predecessors. Exclusive of the Roman stations, I find notices of the following fortifications, &c.

ENCAMPMENTS at, or near, Brocklesby ; Hibberston ; Broughton ; Roxby ; Winterton Cliffs ; Aulkborough ; Yarborough ; South Ormsby ; Burwell ; Stamford ; Castle-Hill, near Gainsborough ; Winteringham ; Humington ; Ingoldsby ; Castle Carleton ; Burgh ; Brough, north of Caston ; Barrow.

CASTLES, or remains of Castles : at Horncastle ; Tattershall, a noble remain ; Bourne, only earthworks remaining ; Castor ; Somerton ; Moor Tower ; Stamford ; Scrivelby ; Torksey, a fine remain ; Sleaford, only earthworks ; Bollingbrook ; Lincoln, with walls and gates ; Folkingham, with large fosses ; Kyme Tower and Hussey Tower, near Boston ; Pinchbeck, a moated mansion ; Bitham.

DIOCESS and SEE of LINCOLN. According to the testimony of the best authorities, the Bishop's See was established at Lincoln in the year 1057, or 1088*, previous to which era, the diocese consisted of the two Anglo-Saxon Sees of *Dorchester*†, now a village

* The exact year of the translation is not satisfactorily specified. Most writers adopt the latter date ; but Beatson, in his " Political Index," states that the see was removed to Lincoln in 1057.

† This See was founded about the year 625, and had eleven bishops, whose names and times of installation are—I. *Birinus*, 625 ; II. *Agilburtus*, 650 ;

village in Oxfordshire, and *Sidnacester**, a place bordering on the river Trent. This diocese is the largest in the whole kingdom, notwithstanding those of Oxford, Peterborough, and Ely, have been detached and taken from it. It comprehends the counties of Lincoln, Leicester, Huntingdon, Bedford, and Buckingham, except the Parishes of Monks Risborough and Halton, which are peculiars of Canterbury; and Abbots Aston and Winslow, (which, with fifteen other parishes that are in Hertfordshire, and were taken hence, being made of exempt jurisdiction, and appropriated to the Abbey of St. Albans, became, on the dissolution of that monastery in the year 1541, part of the Diocese of London). The See of Lincoln also still retains the better half of Hertfordshire, and the Parishes of Banbury, Tame, Milton, Cropredy, Horley, and Hornton, in the county of Oxford; Langford, in Berks and Oxfordshire; Empingham, Liddington, and Ketton, in Rutlandshire; King's Sutton, Gretton, and Nassington, in Northamptonshire; and the chapelries of Wigtoft and Hyde, in the county of Warwick, though the last chapel, Hyde, is desecrated. All which are subdivided, and under the immediate jurisdiction of these six ARCHDEACONRIES: I. *Lincoln*, which is divided into the

DEANERIES

• III. *Totta*, who was the first Bishop of Leicester, 737; IV. *Elbertus*, 764; V. *Unwona*, 786; VI. *Werinburtus*, 801; VII. *Rethunus*, 814; VIII. *Aldredus*, 861; IX. *Ceobredus*, 873; X. *Havlardus*,; XI. *Ceolusus*, or *Kenulphus*, 905.

* This See was established in 678, and, according to Bede, was in, and paramount over the province of Lindsey. Its first bishop was *Eadhedus*, who was consecrated by Paulinus in 678. His successors were the following; II. *Ethelwinus*, 678; III. *Edgarus*, 701; IV. *Kinelbertus*, or *Embertus*, 720; V. *Alrigh*, 733; VI. *Eadulphus* I. 751; VII. *Ceolufus*, 767; VIII. *Unwona*, 783; IX. *Eadulphus* II. 789. After his death the See remained long vacant, and was occupied by the Xth Bishop *Leofwinus* in 949, when the See of Dorchester was transferred to, and united with this. XI. *Auilnother*, 960; XII. *Assuwinus*, or *Oesewynus*, 967; XIII. *Alshelmus*, 994; XIV. *Eadnothus* I. 1004; XV. *Eadhericus*, 1016; XVI. *Eadnothus* II. 1034; XVII. *Ulfus Normanus*, 1052; XVIII. *Wulfinus*, 1052. After the death of this Bishop, his successor *St. Remigius*, removed the See to Lincoln.

DEANERIES of Lincoln, Aswardburn cum Lafford, Aviland, Bel-tislaw, Bollingbrook, Candleshoe, Calcewaith, Gartree, Grantham, Graffioe, Grimsby Hill, Horncastle, Longobovey, Loveden, Lowth cum Ludbrook, Nesse, Stamford, Walscroft, Wraghoe, Yarburgh, all in the county of Lincoln. II. *Stow*, which has the Deaneries of Aslacko, Coringham, Lawres, and Maulake, all likewise in the same county. III. *Leicester*, the Deaneries of which are Leicester, Ackley, Framland, Gartree, Goscote, Guthlaxton, and Sparkenhoe, all in the county of Leicester. IV. *Bedford*, which has Bedford, Clopham, Dunstable, Eaton, Fleet, and Shefford, all in Bedfordshire. V. *Huntingdon*, which has Huntingdon, St. Ives, Leightonstone, St. Neots, and Yaxley, all in the county of Huntingdon. With Baldock, Berkhamstead, Hertford, and Hitchin, in Hertfordshire. VI. *Buckingham*, the Deaneries of which are Buckingham, Burnham, Mursley, Newport, Waddesden, Wendover, and Wycombe, all in the county of Buckingham. In all which, and the out-lying parishes in Oxon, Northampton, Rutland, &c. The number of parishes contained in this diocese (which yet continues by far the largest in England) is stated by Browne Willis to be, including donatives and chapels, 1517; and the clergy's yearly tenths in this very extensive jurisdiction 1751l. 14s. 6d. "The revenues of this bishopric were valued at the dissolution of the monasteries at 2065l. 12s. 6d. and the common revenues of the chapter at 578l. 8s. 2d. But many of its manors being seized, it is now only rated in the king's books at 894l. 10s. 1d. and computed to be worth 3200l. The clergy's tenth is valued at 1751l. 14s. 6d.*" This see has given to the Romish church *three saints*, and one cardinal. From its prelates have been selected six lord chancellors, one lord treasurer, one lord keeper, four chancellors to the University of Oxford, and two to Cambridge.

Willis computes the number of parishes in this diocese at 1517, of which 577 are impropriated. Camden says there are 630 parishes in the county.

Connected

* Beatson's Political Index. In the Red Book, the revenue of the Bishopric is set down at 826l. 4s. 9d. but in this the Bishop's tenths, of 66l. 13s. 4d. are not included.

Connected with the cathedral, and its ecclesiastical establishment, were the MONASTERIES, HOSPITALS, &c. which were very numerous, and some of great influence, in this extensive district. In the following list I have endeavoured to furnish the reader with the names and denominations of the whole at one view. A further account of some of these will be given when describing the places where they are situated.

<i>Names of Places.</i>	<i>Orders.</i>	<i>Founded.</i>	<i>Granted to.</i>	<i>Near</i>
Alvingham	Gilbertine Nun.	temp. Stephen	Ed. L. Clinton	<i>South</i>
* Aslackby	Kn. Templars	temp. Rich. I.	Ditto	Folkingham
* Bardney	Benedictine A.	temp. W. Con.	Sir Ro. Tirwhit	Horneastle
* Barlings	Premonstra. A.	— 1154	Ch. D. of Suffolk	Lincoln
Long Bennington	Cist. P.	— 1175	Dean & Ch. West.	Boston
Bondeby	Alien P.	temp. John	—	—
BOSTON	1 Hospital	temp. Edw. I.	—	—
—	2 Austin Friars	—	Edw. II. Mayor, &c. of Town	—
—	3 Black Friars	ante 1283	Ch. Du. Suffolk	—
—	4 Grey Friars	—	Mayor, &c.	—
—	5 White Friars	circa 1300	Ditto	—
Bourne	Austin Canons	— 1138	Rich. Cotton	—
* Temple Bruer	Templars	ante 1185	Ch. D. Suffolk	Sleaford
Bullington	Gilber. P.	temp. Stephen	Ditto	Lincoln
Burwell	Bened. P.	—	Ditto	—
Cameringham	Premons. P.	temp. Hen. II.	Rob. Tirwhit	—
Catley	Gilber. P.	temp. Stephen	Rob. Carr	Hather
Cotham	Cister. N.	—	Stephen Ed. Skipwith	Grimsby
Covenham	Bened. P.	circa 1082	Wm. Skipwith	Louth
* Croyland	Bened. A.	— 716	Ed. Ld. Clinton	Peterborough
Deeping	Bened. Cel.	— 1139	Th. Dn. Norfolk	—
Egle	Templars	temp. Stephen	Th. El. Rutland } Rob. Tirwhit }	—
Elsham	Austin Canons	ante 1166	Ch. Du. Suffolk	Glanford Brigg.
Epworth	Carthus. P.	temp. Ric. II.	John Candish	Isle of Axholme
Fosse	Bened. N.	temp. Hen. III.	Ed. Ld. Clinton	Torkesey
Freston	Bened. Cel.	temp. Stephen	—	Boston
Glanford Brigg	Hospital	temp. John	—	—
Gokwell	Cister. N.	ante 1185	Sir W. Tirwhit	Barton

* Where the Asterisk is affixed, implies that some of the buildings remain.

<i>Names of Places.</i>	<i>Orders.</i>	<i>Founded.</i>	<i>Granted to.</i>	<i>Near.</i>
GRANTHAM	Grey Friars	ante 1290	Rob. Bocher and Dav. Vincent	} at Grantham
Greenfield	Cister. N.	— 1153	Ch. Du. Suffolk	Alford
* Goxhill	— P.	—	—	Barton
GRIMSBY	Bened. N.	ante 1185	D. Chap. Westm.	Barton
Haghi	Alien P.	circa 1164	John Ld. Russel	Loveden
Hagham	Alien P.	temp. Ric. II.	J. Bellow. J. Broxholm	} <i>Loxth</i>
Hagneby	Premonst. A.	— 1175	John Freeman	Bolingbroke
Haverholme	Gilbert. P.	— 1137	Ed. Ld. Clinton	Sleaford
Hevening	Cistercian N.	circa 1180	Sir Tho. Henneage	Gainsborough
HOLBEACH	Hospital	circa 1351	—	at Holbeach
Holland Brigg	Gilbert. P.	temp. John	Ed. Ld. Clinton	—
Humberston	Bened. A.	temp. Hen. II.	John Cheke, Esq.	Grimsby
Innocents, St.	Hospital	temp. Hen. I.	—	Lincoln
Irford	Premonstr. N.	temp. Hen. II.	Rob. Tirwhit	M. Rasin
* Kirksted	Cistercian A.	— 1139	Ch. Du. Suffolk	Tattershall
Kyme	Austin Canons	temp. Hen. II.	Tho. Ea. Rutland and Ro. Tirwhit	} Sleaford
Legborn	Cistercian N.	ante John	Tho. Henneage	Louth
LINCOLN	Nunnery	ante Conquest	—	—
—	* Cathedral	Bp. Remegius	—	—
—	Gilb. Priory	— 1146	Ch. Du. Suffolk	—
—	Benedic. Cell	—	J. Bellow and J. Broxholm	} —
—	College	— 1355	—	—
—	Five Hospitals	—	—	—
—	Five Orders of Friars had houses here	} —	—	—
* LOUTH Park	Cistercian A.	— 1139	Sir Hen. Stanley	at Louth
Markby	Black Can. P.	—	Ch. Du. Suffolk	Louth
Maltby	Austin Can. P.	—	Ditto	Louth
Mere	K. Templars	—	—	Lincoln
Newbo	Premons. A.	— 1198	Sir John Markham	Grantham
Newsham	Gilb. P.	temp. Hen. II.	—	Brocklesby
Newhouse	Premon. A.	— 1143	Ch. Du. Suffolk	—
Newsted-in- Axholme	} Gilb. Priory	Hen. II.	Rob. Henneage	Burton
Newsted-jux- ta Stamford	} Aust. Can. P.	Hen. III.	Rich. Manours	Stamford

<i>Names of Places.</i>	<i>Orders.</i>	<i>Founded.</i>	<i>Granted to.</i>	<i>Near.</i>
Nocton	Aug. Can. P.	temp. Stephen	Cha. Du. Suffolk	Lincoln
North Ormesby	Gilbertine A.	temp. Stephen	Ro. Henneage	Louth
Revesby	Cist. A.	— 1142	Cha. Du. Suffolk	Spilsby
* Sempringham	Gilb. P.	— 1139	Ed. Ld. Clinton	Folkingham
Sixhill	Gilb. P.	temp. Stephen	Sir T. Henneage	Rasin
Skirbeck	Hospital	— 1230	Cha. Du. Suffolk	Boston
SPALDING	Benedic. A.	— 1052	Sir John Cheke	at Spalding
SPILSEY	College	—	Duch. Suffolk	at Spittal ^o
* Spittal	Hospital	Ant. Edw. II.	D. Chap. Lincoln	Helmeswell
Stanfield	Ben. N.	Hen. II.	Rob. Tirwhit	Lincoln
STAMFORD	1 Ben. Cell	Hen. II.	Rich. Cecil	—
—	2 Ben. P.	—	Will. Cecil	—
—	* 3 Gilb. P.	20 Ed. I.	—	—
—	* 4 Hospital	— 1494	—	—
—	5 Hospital	temp. Hen. II.	—	—
—	6 Lazar Ho.	—	—	—
—	7 Aust. Fri. P.	— 1240	Ed. Ld. Clinton	—
—	8 Black Fr. Con.	— 1240	Rob. Bocherand Dav. Vincent	—
—	9 Grey Fr. Ho.	48 Ed. II.	Cha. Du. Suffolk	—
—	10 White Fr. Ho.	by Edw. I.	—	—
—	11 White Mo. A.	—	—	—
—	12 Canons P.	—	—	—
—	13 Hospital	cir. 9 John	—	—
Stow	Mon. of Ben.	ab. 1040	—	at Stow
Stikeswold	Cis. Nun.	temp. Stephen	Rob. Dighton	Horncastle
* Swineshead	Cist. A.	— 1134	Ed. Ld. Clinton	Boston
* TATTERSHAL	College	17 Hen. VI.	Ch. Du. Suffolk	at Tattershal
Thornton	Aus. Can.	— 1159	—	Barton
—	* College	33 Hen. VIII.	Bp. of Lincoln	Barton
* Thornholm	Aus. Can. P.	King Step.	Ch. Du. Suffolk	Brigg
Torksey	Aus. Can. P.	—	Sir Ph. Hobby	Stow
Tunstal	Gilb. N.	tem. Step.	—	Redbourn
* Topholm	Prem. A.	temp. Hen. II.	Sir Tho. Henneage	Kirksted
Vaudey	Cist. A.	— 1147	Cha. Du. Suffolk	Edenham
Wellow	Aus. Can. A.	Hen. I.	Sir Tho. Henneage	Grimsby
Wenghale	Alien P.	—	Trin. Coll. Cam.	S. Kelsey
Wilsford	Alien P.	temp. Stephen	Cha. Du. Suffolk	Grantham
Witham	Prec. Templars	— 1164	Stephen Hoiford	—
Belleau	— A.	—	—	Louth

THE ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE OF LINCOLNSHIRE has long been justly celebrated for its magnificence, and the numerous churches in the county have been repeatedly spoken of in terms of admiration. It is not unworthy of remark, that the most splendid edifices which adorn this district, were erected chiefly in its lowest and most fenny situations, where all communication must formerly have been, and even to this day is, extremely difficult. It will, perhaps, be no easy task to assign a reason why our ancestors, in the erection of their churches, many of them of large dimensions and splendid in their decorations, should prefer such a tract of country to the higher and more frequented districts. The vicinity to the sea, and the numerous surrounding drains, might indeed have afforded a convenient conveyance for the materials which were not the produce of the county. Though the beauties of nature are scattered with a very sparing hand over Lincolnshire; the fruitfulness and richness of its soil, make ample recompense for this deficiency; and its internal wealth, which is asserted at the present time to equal that of the most extensive counties in England, might have enabled its inhabitants to have supplied its natural defects, by erecting buildings and works of art, which still display an extraordinary magnificence, equal, if not generally superior, to those of any county in the kingdom.

The ecclesiastical edifices in the *division of Lindsey*, excepting the cathedral of Lincoln, are in general inferior to those in Kesteven and Holland; but in the north eastern part of the division, which is bounded by the German ocean to the east, and the high lands called the Wolds to the west, which is a low, flat tract of country, there are several churches, displaying much elegance in their architecture, and built of excellent materials. In many of these are some ancient brasses, and other memorials of families who, three or four centuries past, were resident here, and many of whose descendants, from their possessions, still constitute the principle family interest of the county. The churches in this district vary but little, as to their form and

character; having in common, a body with north and south ailes, supporting a range of windows, also a south porch, a chancel, and tower at the western end. Those of Grimsby and Wainfleet, which are the only deviations from this plan, are cruciform. The date of them may be generally assigned from the time of Edward III. to that of Henry VII. though some display features of an earlier erection in the remains of arches, circular pillars, and other ornaments. A considerable number have been rebuilt, not only on confined dimensions, but with inferior materials. On the high lands, or Wolds, the churches have no claim to architectural beauty, many of them consisting merely of a body and chancel.

In the south part of the Wolds, the churches and other edifices are built with a soft and green coloured sand-stone, which is plentifully supplied from the neighbouring hills: the battlements, buttresses, copings, and more ornamental parts of the structure being formed of a harder and more firm material. This sand-stone, which never loses its soft and porous quality, gradually wastes away: and the deficiency being filled up with modern brick-work, the repairs present a motley and disgusting appearance. The churches of Spilsby, Bolingbroke, and Horncastle, with the remains of the castles at the two latter places, and the surrounding village churches, were, for the most part, erected with this sand-stone. In the western part of Lindsey the churches may be said to preserve a middle character: a considerable number possess much architectural beauty, and some of them display portions of very old architecture.

The *Division of Kesteven* abounds with churches splendid both in their plans and decorations. In the central part, the greater proportion of them are adorned with lofty spires; while many of those in the northern and southern extremities present handsome towers. The churches of Sleaford, Leasingham, Heckington, Threckingham, Horbling, Grantham, with St. Mary's, St. John's, and All Saints, in Stamford, may be particularly mentioned as excellent specimens of ancient English architecture; and, by their height, form prominent objects from different stations
in

in the county. Those of Kesteven differ little from each other in their general plan: the spires, which are lofty, are octagonal, lighted by three tiers of canopied windows, and rising from noble towers at the west end of the building. The towers are frequently divided into three or four distinct stories, and formed of excellent materials and masonry. The date of the churches in this division, with the exception of those of Sempringham and St. Leonard, Stamford, is, in few instances, earlier than the thirteenth century; and, scarcely any having been rebuilt, few will be found of later date than the time of Henry the Seventh.

It is principally in the *Division of Holland*, that Lincolnshire boasts superior excellence in ecclesiastical architecture; and it is really surprising that so many fine monastic buildings, and sacred edifices, should have been erected in a county so inconvenient for travelling, so unpleasant to the eye, and uncongenial with the common comforts of life. Yet, in this fenny, and swampy district, are the churches of Boston, Gosberton, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Holbeach, Gedney, Long-Sutton, Croyland, and many others, which have a just claim to universal admiration. To the munificence of the abbies of Croyland and Spalding, the greater part of the churches which adorn the southern part of this division probably owe their origin. At the period when most of them were erected, Holland was one extensive fen, accessible in many parts only by water, and at particular seasons overflowed from the surrounding drains and marshes. Under these circumstances, the architects of those days were compelled to make artificial foundations, by laying piles or planks of wood, or different strata of earth and gravel, previous to the superstructure of brick or stone. The skill of our ancestors in building on such a precarious soil is strikingly apparent: few of their churches have swerved from their perpendicular; and a firmness and solidity are retained which the peculiar nature of the ground would hardly seem to admit.

The character and plan of the churches in this division vary in different parts. Some are cruciform; many have spires in common with those of Kesteven; while embattled towers at the

west end form the principal feature of the remainder. Of the splendid church at Croyland, only a small portion of the original structure now remains; but sufficient to shew that in its entire state, it was not inferior to any of our cathedrals, either in size or architectural ornament.

The church of Long Sutton is perhaps the earliest specimen of architecture which this division affords, and may be characterised by calling it the counterpart of the cathedral of Christ Church, at Oxford, both in the ornaments of the tower and of the internal decorations.

The churches of Boston, Gosberton, Pinchbeck, Holbeach, Gedney, and several others, afford excellent specimens of the architecture of the fourteenth century. The division of Holland has few churches of a later date than the time of Edward III.

The stone employed in the erection of the edifices of this district is universally found to be of an excellent and durable species, still retaining at the distance, in many instances, of six or seven centuries, its original face and firmness. The churches of *Stow*, *Clee*, *Crowle*, *Washingborough*, *Fiskerton*, *St. Peter at Gowl*, Lincoln, and a few others in the county, present various specimens, and parts of very early architecture, some of which I should not hesitate to refer to an Anglo-Saxon period.

SEATS, &c. This county is more noted for its religious than for its civil architecture. Though an extensive district, it contains but few mansions of consequence, grandeur, or elegance, and those that are standing are chiefly of modern erection. In making the following list, I have endeavoured to ascertain the names and situations, with that of the proprietors, of all the seats in the county. These are arranged according to precedence of rank, and to each name is added the title derived by the nobility from places in the county.

GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, near Corby. Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven; also, Marquis and Earl of Lindsey.—This nobleman

man has other family seats or manors at Ullington and Swineshead in this county.

BELVOIR CASTLE, near Grantham. Duke of Rutland, who possesses several manors in Lincolnshire. The seat is in the county of Leicester, and has been described in a preceding part of this volume.

NOCTON, near Lincoln. Earl of Buckinghamshire.

GLENTWORTH, near Spittal. Earl of Scarborough.

BROCKLESBY, near Brigg. Lord Yarborough, who has another seat at Thurgöby.

BELTON, near Grantham. Lord Brounlow.

REDBOURN, near Brigg. ~~Lord William Beauclerk.~~ *Baronet*

BURTON, near Lincoln. Lord Monson. *Baronet*

DODDINGTON, near Lincoln. Lord Deval.

BLOXHOLM, near Sleaford. The Honourable Colonel Manners.

MANBY, near Brigg. Honourable Charles Anderson Pelham.

ASWARBY, near Folkingham. Sir Thomas Whicote, Bart.

CASWICK, near Stamford. Sir John Trollope, Bart.

DENTON HOUSE, near Grantham. Sir William Earl Welby, Bart.

HARRINGTON HALL, near Spilsby. Lady Ingleby Amcotts, who has another seat at Kettlethorpe near Lincoln.

EASTON, near Grantham. Sir Montague Cholmondeley.

SUMMER CASTLE, near Spittal. Lady Wray.

HANBY HALL, near Folkingham. Sir William Manners, Bart.

HAVERHOLME PRIORY, near Sleaford. Sir Jenison Gordon, Bart.

NORMANBY HALL, near Burton. Sir John Sheffield, Bart.

REVESBY ABBEY, near Boston. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart.

STUBTON, near Newark. Sir Robert Heron, Bart.

SYSTON, near Grantham. Sir John Thorold, Bart.

SCAWLEY, near Brigg. Sir Henry Nelthorpe, Bart.

ASHBY, near Sleaford. Neville King, Esq.

BLANKNEY, near Lincoln. Charles Chaplin, Esq. M. P. for the county.

- BARROW, near Barton. George Uppleby, Esq.
- BOUTHORPE PARK, near Bourn. Philip Duncombe Pauncefort, Esq.
- BRANSTON, near Lincoln. Formerly belonged to the Wrays, now belongs to the Earl of Buckinghamshire.
- BURWELL PARK, near Louth. Matthew Bancroft Lister, Esq.
- CANWICK, near Lincoln. Colonel Siphthorpe.
- COLEBY HALL, near Lincoln. General Bertie.
- CROXTON PARK, near Grantham. Right Hon. Spencer Percival.
- ELSHAM, near Brigg. ——— Corbett, Esq.
- FANTHORPE, near Louth. *Capt. Lloyd* —
- FULBECK, near Sleaford. Colonel Fane.
- GERSBY, near Louth. George Lister, Esq.
- GUNBY HALL, near Wainfleet. W. B. Massingberd, Esq.
- GATE BURTON, near Gainsborough. William Hutton, Esq.
- GANTBY, near Horncastle. Robert Vyner, Esq.
- GOLTHO, near Wragby. Charles Manwaring, Esq.
- GRIMSBY LITTLE, near Louth. J. Nelthorpe, Esq.
- HARMSTON, near Lincoln. Samuel Thorold, Esq.
- HAINTON PARK, near Wragby. G. R. Henneage, Esq.
- HURST PRIORY, Isle of Axholme. Cornelius Stovin, Esq.
- HARLAXTON MANOR HOUSE, near Grantham. George de Legue Gregory, Esq.
- HACKTHORNE, near Lincoln. John Cracroft, Esq.
- HAYDER LODGE, near Grantham.
- HOLLYWELL, near Stamford. Jacob Reynardson, Esq.
- IRNHAM, near Grimsthorpe. Arundel Family.
- KNAITH, near Gainsborough. Henry Dalton, Esq.
- LANGTON HALL, near Spilsby. George Langton, Esq.
- LEADENHAM, near Grantham. William Reeve, Esq.
- NORTON PLACE, near Spittal. John Harrison, Esq.
- ORMSBY, SOUTH, near Spilsby. C. B. Massingberd, Esq.
- OWSTON PLACE, Isle of Axholme. Jervace Woodhouse, Esq.
- PAUNTON, LITTLE, near Grantham. William Pennyman, Esq.
- PANTON HOUSE, near Wragby. Edmund Turnor, Esq.
- RISEHOLME,

- RISEHOLME, near Lincoln. Francis Chaplin, Esq.
- SCRIVELSEY, near Horncastle. The Honourable Champion Dymocke, Esq.
- SOMERBY, near Brigg. ——— Weston, Esq.
- SOMERBY PARK, near Gainsborough. An old seat of the Seaforth Family—now John Beckwith, Esq.
- STOKE ROCHFORD, near Grantham. Edmund Turnor, Esq.
- SWINHOP, near Castor on the Wolds. The Rev. Marmaduke Alington.
- SUDBROOKE HOLME, near Lincoln. Richard Ellison, Esq. M. P.
- STAINFIELD, near Barling's Abbey. Tyrwhit Family.
- TATHWELL, near Louth. C. Chaplin, Esq. M. P.
- TEMPLE BELLWOOD, Isle of Axholme. William Johnson, Esq.
- THORESBY, South, near Alford. W. Wood, Esq.
- TEALBY COTTAGE, near Rasin. George Tennyson, Esq.
- THONOCK, near Gainsborough. Mrs. Hickman.
- THORPHALL, near Louth. Captain Birch.
- UFFINGTON, near Stamford.
- WELL VALE, near Alford. ——— Dashwood, Esq.
- WELLINGORE, near Lincoln. Christopher Neville, Esq.
- WALCOT, near Winterton. Thomas Golton, Esq.
- WILLINGHAM HOUSE, near Rasin. Ayscough Boucherett, Esq.
- WOTTON, near Barton. John Wppleby, Esq.

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES, NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS, and AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES. This county, as well as those of Essex, Cambridge, and Norfolk, have been generally described, as particularly unfavourable to human healthfulness; and from their contiguity to the sea, with the numerous fens, meres, brooks, &c. with which they abound, are commonly stigmatized as producing pestilential climates, unfit for human habitation, or only calculated to excite agues, cramps, and endless rheumatisms. These general maxims, though often originating in just and appropriate facts, are too commonly perverted,

verted, or extended beyond all due bounds. Thus it happens, that a county, or a whole country, obtains a sort of provincial character, which originally applied perhaps only to a small district, or which, from natural or artificial improvements, has been rendered nugatory. Lincolnshire may be said to be in this predicament; for its name is very commonly associated with fens, agues, flatness, and bogs. Those who reside in, or have travelled over it, are enabled to appreciate and define its characteristics: and this is the duty of the impartial topographer.

Arthur Young has pointed out and described many features and places in the county, that may be referred to as partaking of the beautiful and picturesque: "About Belton," says he, "are fine Views from the tower on Belmont; Lynn and the Norfolk Cliffs are visible, Nottingham Castle, the Vale of Belvoir, &c. And in going by the cliff towns to Lincoln there are many fine views. From Fullbeck to Leadenham, especially at the latter place, there is a most rich prospect over the vale of the Trent to the distant lands that bound it. These views, over an extensive vale, are striking, and of the same features are those from the cliff-road to the north of Lincoln, to Kirton, where is a great view both east and west to the wolds, and also to Nottinghamshire. Near Gainsborough there are very agreeable scenes; from the plantation of H. Dalton of Knaith, and from the chateau battery of Mr. Hutton of Burton, the view of the windings of the Trent, and the rich level plain of meadow, all alive with great herds of cattle, bounded by distant hills of cultivation, are features of an agreeable county. But still more beautiful is that about Trent-fall; from Sir John Sheffield's hanging wood, and the Rev. Mr. Sheffield's ornamented walk, following the cliff to Alkborough, where Mr. Goulton's beautiful grounds command a great view of the three rivers; as the soil is dry, the woods lofty, and the county various, this must be esteemed a noble scenery, and a perfect contrast to what Lincolnshire is often represented, by those who have only seen the parts of it that are very different. The whole line of the Humber hence to Grimsby, when viewed from

from the higher wolds presents an object that must be interesting to all. This, with the very great plantation of Lord Yarborough, are seen to much advantage, from that most beautiful building the Mausoleum at Brocklesby*." Many other places and parts of the county might be pointed out as presenting in themselves, or commanding, interesting scenery. The country around Grantham, also in the vicinity of Louth, and that more particularly between Bourn and the former place, including the noble and very spacious woods of Grimsthorpe, abounds with that inequality of surface, that diversified interchange of hill and dale, wood and lawn, which constitute the picturesque and beautiful in natural scenery.

Lincolnshire is a large county, and occupies an area, according to the best authorities, of about 2,814 square statute miles, or 1,800,880 statute acres. Arthur Young makes the total different; but it must be observed, that for want of a good survey of the county, we cannot come to any satisfactory conclusion on this head. That gentleman divides and estimates the contents of the county in the following manner:

	Acres.
The Wolds	234,880
The Heath	178,400
Lowland	776,960
Miscellaneous	718,880
Total.....	<u>1,848,320</u>

Mr. Stone, in his agricultural survey of the county, gives the following statement respecting the extent and division of Lincolnshire. The whole number of acres 1,893,100; of which he conjectures there may be 473,000 acres of inclosed, marsh, and fen lands, 200,000 of commons, wastes, and unembanked salt marshes, 268,000 of common fields, 25,000 of woodlands, and 927,120 of inclosed upland.

Lincolnshire

* General View, &c. p. 3.

Lincolnshire may be said to present three great natural features, each of which has a specific and nearly uniform character. These are the Wolds, Heaths, and Fens. The latter occupies the south eastern side of the county, and though formerly a mere waste and perfectly sterile, has been, by means of drainage, &c. rendered subservient to agriculture; many parts indeed may be pronounced uncommonly fertile. On the sea coast, towards the north part of the county, this tract is narrow; near the Humber it contracts to a mere strip of land.

The Heaths, north and south of Lincoln, and the Wolds, are calcareous hills, which, from their brows, command many fine views over the lower region. The rest of the county is not equally discriminated, either by fertility or elevation.

“The Heath, now nearly enclosed, is a tract of high country, a sort of back-bone to the whole, in which the soil is a good sandy loam, but with clay enough in it to be slippery with wet, and tenacious under bad management; but excellent turnip and barley land, on a bed of limestones, at various depths, from six inches to several feet, commonly nine inches to eighteen. This hill slopes sharply to the west; the declivity of the same nature, but generally good; and this extends some distance in the flat vale, for the first line of villages, (built also as the soil lies in a longitudinal direction, north and south.) The soil is rich loam, containing much pasturage*.”

Between Gainsborough and Newark, for twenty-five miles, is a large tract of flat sandy soil, the greater part of which has been enclosed and partly drained. The soil of the isle of Acholme may be said to be among the finest in England. It consists of black sandy loams, warp land, brown sand, and rich loams of a soapy and tenacious quality. The under stratum at Stacey, Belton, &c. is, in many places, an imperfect plaster stone.

Respecting the general products of the county, it may be stated that its higher grounds are now mostly inclosed and appropriated

to

* Young's View of the Agriculture of the county of Lincoln.

to tillage, and produce all sorts of grain. Some of the wolds, however, are not yet divided, but are devoted to sheep and rabbits. The lower lands, that have been drained and enclosed, produce abundant crops of oats, hemp, flax, &c.

Lincolnshire has long been famous for a fine breed of *horses*; but the adjoining county of York has now the credit for rearing many that are really bred in this county. In some districts there are numerous mares kept for the sole purpose of breeding. In Holland division, almost every farmer keeps some; and the number of colts reared is very great. These are chiefly of the black cart kind; and are generally sold off from the mares when quite young, and sent into the adjacent counties to be reared. At Long Sutton, and in the vicinity, according to *Stone*, there is a breed of horses for the saddle, remarkable for bone and activity; with the accustomed riding weight, they will trot sixteen miles an hour, and are allowed, by competent judges, to be the best saddle horses in the kingdom. "About Normanby and Burton many are bred both for saddle and coach; sell at two or three and four years old; get from eighty guineas, at four years old for a hunter, down to 7 or 8l.; a good coach horse, at four years old, 30 to 40l.*"

Many occupiers of grass lands purchase three years old colts at the Yorkshire fairs, keep them a year, and, after trimming, nicking, &c. sell them to the London dealers at the customary prices of, from 35 to 40l. each.

Mr. Stone describes the *neat cattle* of this county as being, for the greatest part, of a large sort, having great heads and short horns; are stout in the bone, and deep in the belly; with short necks and fleshy quarters, narrow hips and chins, high in their rumps and bare on the shoulders. The *cows*, he remarks, when fat, weigh from eight to nine hundred, and the oxen from ten to twelve hundred each. But though this be the general breed, yet many experimental farmers, by purchase, crossing, &c.

* Young's Agri. Surv.

&c. are possessed of cattle of finer symmetry, and superior qualities.

Lincolnshire is not only a breeding, but a grazing county; and many farmers occupy themselves entirely in buying up full grown beasts, letting them run on rich pastures for a certain period, and then finish their feeding by oil-cake; when they are driven to Smithfield market. The *dairy* here is not regarded, farther than for the use of the family; the rearing of calves, where cows are kept, is the principal object of care. These are kept till three or four years old, and then usually sold to the feeders when in a lean state. Few farms are found in the county where farmers keep cows professedly for the profit arising from butter and cheese. "It is evident, upon the whole, that the Lincoln breed of cattle, upon Lincoln pastures, are profitable; and it appears evident, from the general colour of the comparisons made with the long-horned Leicester, their own short-horned are superior*."

Perhaps the most profitable stock of the county is *sheep*. Numbers are bred and fattened in this part of the kingdom. Large quantities of wool are thence obtained, to supply the demands of the manufacturing districts. It is a curious fact, that while so much has been said in commendation of the Leicester-shire breed, as though it was a singular species, the Lincolnshire, which is the same, should have been passed over in silence. Mr. Stone says, these sheep are not even varieties. "It is well known, that the late Mr. Bakewell, who was the original breeder of the pretended variety of sheep, called the new Leicester, laid his foundation upon the old Lincoln breed, selecting sheep that possessed the most perfect symmetry for his purpose, and afterwards crossing them with others, or breeding into the whole blood†."

The sheep of Lincolnshire is a large, horned animal, adapted for

* Young's Agri. Surv.

† Review of the Agriculture.

for the rich grazing, and marsh land of the county; and generally weighs well when fat, and bears a heavy fleece of coarse, but long stapled wool; the weight per fleece is 8lb. and upwards. Mr. Young mentions a sheep sold at Smithfield, which clipped, the first year, *23lb. of wool*, in the second year *22½lb.!*

Few manufactures are established in the county; but two objects of considerable merchandize must be specified: dealing in rabbit's fur, and goose feathers. These were formerly of great consequence, and furnished articles of extensive trade, between the sellers, buyers, and merchants. From the system of enclosing, now so extensively adopted, both rabbits and geese are much abridged in this county.

The *rabbit warrens* of this county were formerly much more extensive than at present, and were preserved on a principle of improvement; some being broken up for tillage, and others, which had been under tilth, being again laid down for this purpose. The soil of old warrens, by the urine and dung of *rabbits*, and their continually stirring and ventilating the earth in burrowing, has been found incomparably better than lands of a like nature left in their original state. Rabbits are highly prolific; and when in season, and of a proper age, their flesh is esteemed both wholesome and delicate. This, though in a degree an object of profit, does not render them so valuable as their skins; these it was that recommended them to the notice of manorial proprietors; and though now, from various causes, much reduced in price, they still continue to be of no inconsiderable value. The occupier finds, that the investment of a small capital, yields an interest that nothing else will, and a larger profit, with less labour, than any other kind of tenure.

Their fecundity was a circumstance of no small consequence, when the skins of large, well chosen rabbits would produce 2s. 6d. or 3s. each. At that time they were used in making muffs, tippetts, lining robes, &c. the down was also employed in the hat manufactories.

As *rabbit skins* constitute the principal profit of the proprietor,
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it becomes a primary object with him to attend to the time of breeding, killing, &c. Skins that are free from black spots on the inside, are said to be in season, and the fur is then more valuable than at any other time. Those rabbits that are bred at the beginning of May, are esteemed the best. In June and November the skin is also generally white. The silver grey rabbits are of the best sort, excepting those of a clear white colour. Skins from the latter have sold from ninepence to sixteenpence each. The carcasses have not netted of late, to the keepers of these warrens, more than fourpence each, owing to the obligation they are under of sending them far to a market, and to kill from eight to ten parts of the annual produce from the beginning of November to the end of December. This trade is not only on the decline, from the diminution in the value of the skins, but also from the means of conducting it becoming daily more circumscribed. Since many methods have been discovered to ameliorate such lands, and render them more productive, it has been thought a point of good husbandry to destroy the warrens, and convert the land to other uses; and the sooner the whole of such nuisances were removed the better. The voracity of rabbits is equal to their fecundity; and as they eat all kinds of herbs, roots, grain, fruit, bark, and branches of young trees, they are very destructive to plantations, corn, and other crops, especially quickset hedges. Though the number of warrens in Lincolnshire has been greatly reduced within a few years past, yet many thousand acres are still devoted to this kind of stock. Mr. Young counted ten between Louth and Castor, a distance of eighteen miles*.

Many of what are called the Fens, are in a state of waste, and serve for little other purpose than the breeding and rearing of *Geese*, which are considered the Fenman's treasure. Indeed they are a highly valuable stock, and live where, in the present state

* For a more particular account of such lands, and their comparative profits, see Young's Agricultural Survey.

state of those lands, nothing else will. They breed numerous young, which quickly become saleable; or if thought more desirable, speedily contribute to increase the stock. Their feathers are highly valuable; and however trifling it may appear in detail, the sale of quills alone amount, on a large flock, to a very considerable sum. Of feathers the use is well known; and of all kinds, for the stuffing of beds, those of geese are considered the best. Whether from increasing luxury, the diminution in the quantity produced, or both these causes co-operating, the present demand in England is obliged to be supplied by importations from abroad; and the article is greatly advanced, and advancing, in price. From the cheap mode which persons in this county possess of keeping these aquatic fowls, Lincolnshire still furnishes the markets with large quantities of goose-feathers and goose-quills.

“During the breeding season, these birds are lodged in the same houses with the inhabitants, and even in their very bed-chambers; in every apartment are three rows of coarse wicker pens, placed one above another; each bird has its separate lodge, divided from the other, which it keeps possession of during the time of sitting. A gozzard, or gooseherd, attends the flock, and twice a day drives the whole to water, then brings them back to their habitation, helping those that live in the upper stories to their nests, without ever misplacing a single bird*.”

The geese are usually plucked five times a year, though some persons pluck them only three times, and others four. The first plucking is at Lady-day, for quills and feathers, and again at Midsummer, Lammas, Michaelmas, and Martinmas. Goslings are not spared; for it is thought, that early plucking tends to increase their succeeding feathers. “The feathers of a dead goose are worth sixpence, three giving a pound; but plucking alive does not yield more than threepence a head, per annum. Some wing them only every quarter, taking ten feathers from each goose,

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which

* Gough's additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 235. Edition of 1789.

which sell at five shillings a thousand. Plucked geese pay, in feathers, one shilling a head in Wildmore Fen*.”

The common mode of plucking live geese is considered a barbarous custom; but it has, perhaps, prevailed ever since feather beds came into general use. The mere plucking is said to hurt the fowl but little, as the owners are careful not to pull until the feathers are *ripe*; that is, not till they are just ready to fall; because if forced from the skin before, which is known by blood appearing at the roots, they are of very inferior value. Those plucked after the geese are dead, are not so good.

The general improvements that have been effected in this county, within the last twenty years, and that are now gradually making, have co-operated to alter the general appearance, the agriculture, climate, &c. in such a material manner, that the surface has assumed a new aspect, the value of land is greatly increased, the means of social and commercial communication have been facilitated, and rendered more convenient, and the comforts of domestic life greatly promoted. Still, though much has been done towards effecting these important ends, there is scope for material improvements: for the *roads* in many parts of the county are in a very bad state, and though toll bars are raised to tax the traveller, he is not provided with advantages adequate to the levied rates. In the neighbourhood of Boston, Spalding, and Louth, the Commissioners have commenced a plan of forming firm and substantial roads. This is mostly done by laying a quantity of shingles, brought from the Norfolk coast, in the centre of the road, and mixing them with the *silt* of the place. The latter is a sort of porous sea sand, which has been deposited by the tides at a period when they covered the whole of the fens. It becomes firm with rain, but in dry weather forms a loose sand, of a dark red colour, driven about by the winds, and unfit for vegetation. Mixed with clay and loam it affords valuable breeding pasture for sheep, and in some places,

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* Young's General View, p. 394.

under tillage, produces large crops of *oats*. This grain is almost the only object of agriculture in the inclosed fen-lands; and immense crops of it are produced with little labour or skill.

“ There is an extraordinary circumstance,” says A. Young, “ in the north-west corner of the county. Agues were formerly commonly known upon the Trent and Humber sides—at present they are rare; and nothing has been effected on the Lincoln side of the Humber, to which it can be attributed; but there was a coincidence of time with the draining Wallin-fen in Yorkshire to this effect: that county is now full of new built houses, and highly improved, and must have occasioned this remarkable change*.”

The *Wolds* extend from Spilsby, in a north westerly direction, for about forty miles to Barton, near the Humber. They are, on the average, nearly eight miles in breadth, and consist of sand and sandy loam, upon flinty loam, with a sub-stratum of chalk. This is peculiarly their appearance about Louth, and in the extensive rabbit warrens between Gayton and Tathwel. But where the friable loams prevail, rich upland pastures are seen pleasantly intermixed. From Binbrook to Caiston, with the interruption of Caiston Moor, a sandy soil prevails; and thence, sand with an intermixture of argillaceous earth, till they change into the rich loam of which Barton field, a space of 6000 acres, principally consists.

Beneath this line, and parallel with the eastern shore, lies an extensive tract of land at the foot of the Wolds, in the direction of north west to south east, reaching from Barton to Wainfleet, of various breadth, from five to ten miles. This tract of country, called the *marsh*, is secured from the encroachments of the sea by embankments of earth, and is agriculturally divided into north and south marshes, by a difference in the soil, called *middle marsh*. The first comprises a large extent of rich salt lands, the value of which is well known to the grazier; the second consists of stiff, cold, and tenacious clay, consequently

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of

* General View, p. 6.

of inferior value ; and the intervening land is a rich brown loam, stretching across from Belesby to Grimsby. Between these two ridges, of Wolds and Heath, is a tract of varied, but useful land, though accompanied by much of a different character. From “ The heath-hill, looking eastward, there is no cliff ; yet the country slopes gradually into a vale, of soils too various for description, but not good in its general feature. Half way to the Wolds, in a line not regular, there is a rising tract of good land, that is narrow, on which the villages are built ; this sinks again into another part of the various-soiled vale to the Wolds. Thus forming, between the Heath and the Wolds, first, the narrow ridge on which the villages are built, set at about sixteen shillings ; then the Ancholme flat, at fourteen shillings ; the ridge of pasture, at sixteen shillings ; a flat of moor very bad ; and then the Wolds*.” Between these are the following Fens : first, those which lie below the sloping ground of the south Heath, running north by east from Grantham to Lincoln, extending again by the west from Lincoln to the banks of the Trent. Second, those low lands lying upon the river Witham, forming a triangle between the points of Lincoln, Wainfleet, and Croyland. And lastly, those which lie between the north Heath and the Wolds, in the vicinity of Ancholme.

FENS, RIVERS, DRAINING, &c. The Fens of this county, it has been observed, form one of its most prominent features. They consist of lands which, at some distant period, have been inundated by the sea, and by human art have been recovered from it. In the summer season they exhibit immense tracts chiefly of grazing land, intersected by wide deep ditches, called droves, which answer the end both of fences and drains. These are accompanied generally by parallel banks, upon which the roads pass, and are intended to keep the waters, in flood time, from overflowing the adjacent lands. They not only communicate with each other, but also with larger canals, called *dykes* and *drains*,

* Young's General View, &c. p. 9.

drains, which in some instances are navigable for boats and barges. At the lower end of these are sluices, guarded by gates, termed *gowts* or *gouts*. During the summer, numerous flocks and herds are seen grazing over this monotonous scene, and many of the pastures afford a rich and luxuriant herbage; but in the winter, or the autumn, if it should prove wet, the aspect is changed; the cattle quickly disappear; the scene rapidly alters; and the eye must pass over thousands of acres of water or ice, before it can find an object on which to rest, save the numerous wild fowl which then occupy this watery expanse.

There are several causes which combine to produce this drowning of the lands. Many of the fens lie below the level of the sea; some are lower than the beds of the rivers; and all are beneath the high water mark of their respective drains. The substratum of the Fens is *silt*, or sea sand, which is a well known conductor of water. Through this, when the drains are full, the sea water filters; and, unable to pass by the drains, rises on the surface, and is known by the name of *soak*. To this is added, after rains, the water which flows from the higher lands, the overflowings of the ditches and rivers, and inundations from the sea, by the frequent breaches made in the banks formed for fencing it out. It is a circumstance no less interesting to the philosopher, than mortifying to the inhabitants of this county, that in many situations where the latter are almost ruined by this element in winter, during summer they are greatly distressed for it, even for the most common purposes. They are often in want of it for watering their cattle. In dry seasons, rich marsh land, which would feed a bullock an acre, being destitute of fresh water, cannot be depastured, and consequently becomes of little value; for any thing of the nature of a flood, to which the vallies or low lands of more unequal districts are so often exposed, has been unknown in this part of the kingdom since the general system of draining has been practised. At this season the drains are very shallow, and the ditches dry, the soak filters off through the silt; and, except in a few places, springs of

fresh water are unknown; so that the cattle must be driven to a great distance for it, at a certain loss in the proof, and at a heavy expence. Another evil also arises from those ditches becoming dry; being the only bounds between fields and farms, each occupier is continually liable to trespass from the straying of his neighbour's cattle, and to actions of trespass for the damages committed by his own.

Of the immense tract of *Fen-land* in this, as well as the adjoining counties, much has been written, not only because it forms a prominent feature in the face of this part of the kingdom, but from having excited particular attention in the early periods of our history, at various times engaged the most pointed attention of the legislature, and to the present hour has elicited the genius, and employed the most strenuous energies of man, in attempts to facilitate its improvement. Of these attempts, made at different periods, and still making, to obtain the same desirable end, I shall take a cursory view. Previous to which, however, it will be necessary to enquire, whether these lands were *originally* in a state of *Fen*, or from various causes became so, subsequent to the period assigned by some writers for their existence? For this purpose, it will be necessary to advert to the natural rivers, and shew how they wind their devious courses through these marsh lands to the sea.

It was the opinion of an able writer, who had entered more fully into this subject than any who preceded or have followed him, that there was a time when these parts of the country were not inundated by the ocean; and though he could not affix any precise time for the event, he suggested several causes, which might either suddenly or gradually have tended to produce it. Speaking of the Isle of Axholme, he says, "For many ages it hath been a fenny tract, and for the most part covered with waters, but was more anciently not so; for originally it was a *woody* country, and not at all annoyed with those inundations of the rivers that passed through it, as is most evident by the great numbers

bers of oak, fir, and other trees, which have been of late frequently found in the moor, upon making of sundry ditches and channels for the draining thereof; the oak trees lying somewhat above three feet in depth, and near their roots, which do still stand as they grewed, viz. in firm earth below the river*.”

In speaking of the great level, Dugdale is of opinion, that it was formerly firm and dry land, neither annoyed with stagnation of fresh waters, nor inundations from the sea; and this he supposes was the case both of the fens in Lincolnshire and the adjoining counties: for it is an established fact, that large timber trees will not thrive in watery or marshy lands, and such have been found lying in the earth abundantly in this country. Hence it will appear, that these lands were at a former period in a very different state to what they are at present, and the cause of such a remarkable change it is desirable to ascertain. On such occasions it is usual to wave the trouble of investigation, by referring it to some extraordinary convulsions of Nature; and an earthquake often in this way suddenly swallows up or supplies the place of a long train of natural causes. Dugdale himself, unable to find any documents, which might enable him to affirm positively on the subject, is obliged to have recourse to this kind of conjecture—“By what means that violent breach and inundation of the sea was first made into this country, I am not able positively to affirm, therefore I must take leave to deliver my conjecture therein, from the most rational probabilities; which is, that it was by some great earthquake: for that such dreadful accidents have occasioned the like we have unquestionable testimony†.”

But the enquiring mind does not easily rest satisfied with such precipitate conclusions; it must have recourse to facts, for as it aims at truth, it requires demonstration. With this view, there-

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* Dugdale's "History of Imbanking and Draining," edit. by Cole, p. 141.
—See Beauties in Cambridgeshire.

† History of Imbanking, &c. p. 172.

fore, it will be necessary to speak of the nature, course, and extent of the *natural rivers*, within the limits of the district now to be described. The principal of these, which either rise in this county, pass through, or are connected with it, are the Trent, the Ancholme, the Witham, the Welland, and the Glen, with other tributary streams.

The TRENT, though not properly a river of the county, rising in Staffordshire, and taking a north-eastern course through the counties of Derby and Nottingham, yet, as dividing the latter county from that of Lincoln, has a claim to some notice here. It forms the boundary on the north-western side, from the village of North Clifford to that of Stockworth; whence it constitutes the eastern boundary of the Isle of Axholme: it thence flows to Aldborough, opposite to which it receives the Don, and a little below, being joined by the Ouse, both mingle their waters with the Humber. From Gainsborough, where it is crossed by an handsome bridge, it is navigable for the conveyance of coals, corn, and various articles of commerce to its estuary.

The ANCHOLME is a small river, rising in the Wolds, near Market-Rasin, whence, flowing northward by Glanford Bridge, it is navigable to the Humber, and falls into this river some miles below the junction of the Trent.

The WELLAND takes its rise near Sibertoff in Northamptonshire; and being increased by numerous rivulets and streams, passes Market Deeping; where, entering the fens, it leaves a portion of its waters and sludge or sock, which it had accumulated in its previous passage through the rich lands of Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, and Rutlandshire. In its course from Deeping to Croyland it divides into two streams; the one branching off southward by east to Wisbeach; and the other, by a sluggish course, through an artificial channel, to Spalding and Surfleet, where meeting the contributory *Glen*, it empties itself into Foss-dyke-Wash, east of Boston.

The WITHAM only is properly and completely a river of this county, and is entitled to particular notice. It may be said to
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derive its source near South Witham, a village about ten miles north of Stamford; and thence flows almost duly north, by North Witham, Coltersworth, through the park of Easton, and to Great Ponton, where another stream joins it from Skillington and Stoke Rochford. At Little Ponton it receives a small brook, and then proceeds on the eastern side of the town of Grantham; whence it flows by Belton Park and Syston, and then turns westerly to Long Bennington. Here it bends again to the north; and after flowing by Claypole and Beckingham, it proceeds through a wide sandy valley to Lincoln. It now flows almost directly east to Grubhill, where it turns to the south-east, and continues in this direction to Boston, and unites its waters with the sea, at a place called Boston Deepes. From its source to Beckingham its banks are diversified with rising grounds and ornamental objects. Among the latter are the elegant spire of Grantham church, the fine woods at Belton Park, Syston Park, and Little Ponton. In its course to Lincoln the contiguous country is diversified by high grounds, vallies, and woods: after passing the city it leaves the high lands, and continues through a level tract of country to the sea. Much of the present bed of the river from Boston upwards is a new artificial cut, made for the purpose of widening and straightening the channel, rendering it more commodious for navigation, and better adapted to receive and carry off the water of the contiguous fens.

These rivers, with those of the Grant, Ouse, and Nene, in the adjoining counties, from the obstructions they meet in delivering their waters to the ocean, are the cause of drowning so large a portion of valuable land. By which means, instead of deriving the benefits the country otherwise might, from the occasional overflowing of their waters, had they been permitted to have a free passage to the sea, it has been greatly injured by their stagnating effects; yielding little profit to the proprietors, and annoying those who reside in their vicinity. From these and other causes the courses of the rivers have been changed at times; their usual channels being obstructed, the waters have forced through the
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low lands new passages to the sea. Their direction has been sometimes altered, by the plans put in execution for the drainage of the country. Thus the "Welland having anciently its course by Spalding, through the decay of the out-fall there, a great part thereof sometime fell through Great Passons, and so out by Quaplode; but that out-fall also decaying, as most out-falls over the washes have and still will do, that way was stopped up, and the river driven to seek a course in a very faint manner, by south-east, towards Wisbeach; where again, through the defect of Wisbeach's out-fall, when it meeteth with the Nene at the new Leames-end at Guyhirne, they both turn back under Waltersey Bank to Hobbes, and so to Harchie Stream; and there meeting with the great branch of Nene came to Welle, and so to Salter's Lode*."

We are informed by Leland, that a channel was cut to divert it nearly in the line of its ancient course, by a shorter way, called the New Drain, in which passing Croyland, it runs into the sea by Spalding.

Other rivers of the Fen Country have experienced similar changes.

The *Witham*, by powers granted to Commissioners in the time of Richard the Second, it appears, that its ancient bed had been choaked up between Claypole and Lincoln, by which means the current had been diverted, and much of the adjacent country overflowed from the waters endeavouring to find another passage. And in the eighteenth of the said King's reign, a new Commission was appointed to view and repair the different banks, sewers, &c. between the Hill Dyke and Bolingbroke. The latter part of its course was diverted by art from the old bed under the direction of a Mr. Grundy, surveyor and engineer, about the year 1762. The plan was only partially acted upon, by which the waters of the *Witham* were conducted by a new channel, with double embankments, commencing near Hambridge, proceeding
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* Dugd. Imb. p. 373.

to Langrick Ferry, and thence through Anton's Gowt, to the grand Sluice near Boston.

That the obstructions, which these rivers meet in their passage, has been the cause of the inundations, is clearly evident; but perhaps what has occasioned those may not be so manifest. In viewing the various inlets of the sea on this part of the coast it is surprising to observe the immense quantity of sand and sludge which is continually depositing on the shore. This is caused by the nature of the tides, which, from the form of the channel, flow with much more violence than they ebb. This causes the mouths of the rivers to be choaked up, and the descending waters to be thrown back on the lowlands, in the vicinity of their banks. "Whosoever hath observed the constant tides, which flow up the river Ouse, at Lynne, will find the water always very thick and muddy there, because the sea bearing a larger breadth northwards, from thence worketh with so much distemper. It is no wonder therefore, that a great proportion of *silt* doth daily settle in the mouth of the Osiary, and likewise in the other, viz. of Wisbeche, Spalding, and Boston, so that in time it could not but grow to that thickness, without some artificial helps to quicken the current, upon its evacuation at every ebb, whereby it might be carried out again, that it must needs force back the fresh waters, and cause them not only to overflow, but at length to drown the whole level, through which their streams did pass. And this we see was apparently the case here; for to such an height is the silt grown, that in the year 1635, upon the deepening of Wisbeche river, the workmen, at eight feet below, came to another bottom which was stoney, and in it, at several distances, found several boats that had lain there overwhelmed with the silt for many ages*."

The Great Bay, or Estuary, into which the different rivers, passing through the Fens are disembogued, is very shallow and full of shifting sands and silt. The rivers, which are constantly
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* Dugd. Imb. p. 177.

loaded with mud, particularly in times of flood, are met by the tide equally charged with silt, which obstructs their entrance; and at a certain distance from their mouths, the force of the river waters becoming equal, a stagnation takes place, during which the silt is dropped and banks are formed. The situation of these banks is nearer to, or farther from the river's mouth, in proportion as the strength of the river water is greater or less, *i. e.* as it is sooner or later overcome by the tide.

“ Thus, if the seasons are wet, the rivers having a greater quantity of water in them, run to seaward with a greater velocity, and of consequence drive the silt further out; on the other hand, if the seasons are dry, and the tides stronger from the effects of wind, or other causes, the silt of course is driven less powerfully outwards, and settles nearer to their mouths, which chokes them up and prevents their free discharge from the fens*.”

These, without any extraordinary phenomenon, appear to have formed the moor-land of the present Fen-country, and to be the sole cause of its frequent inundations. That this was the state of the country, at an early period, is evident, from the plans of imbanking and draining which the Romans adopted in order to counteract the mischievous effects of such inundations. Since their departure much has been done at various times for the improvement of the district, and an immense expense has been occasionally, and is still annually incurred, to prevent the encroachment of the waters, and at the same time to ameliorate the soil. A brief account will not only serve to give an idea of the country, but also tend to illustrate those periods of history.

Deeping Fen, on the banks of the Welland, appears to have received the earliest attention; for at the beginning of Edward the Confessor's reign, a road was made across it by Egelric, formerly a monk of Peterborough, but at that time bishop of Durham†.

In

* Rennie's "First Report concerning the Drainage of Wildmore Fen," &c. p. 2.

† Hist. Ingulphi, f. 510.

In the time of the Conqueror, Richard de Rulos, chamberlain to that monarch, inclosed this part of the Fen Country, from the chapel of St. Guthlake to Cardyke, and beyond to Clei-lake, near Cranmore; excluding the river Welland, by a large and extensive bank of earth. "And having by this good husbandry brought the soil to that fertile condition, he converted the said chapel of St. Guthlake into a church, the place being now called Market Deeping; by the like means of banking and draining he also made a village, dedicated to St. James, in the very pan of Puddington; and by much labour and charge reduced it into fields, meadows, and pastures, which is now called Deeping St. James *."

As property became more divided, greater attention was paid to the improvement of the soil; and various presentments were made, and grants obtained, for scouring the rivers, and draining off the superfluous waters.

The FOSS DYKE is an artificial trench, extending about seven miles in length, from the great marsh near the city of Lincoln to the river Trent in the vicinity of Torksey. This was made, or materially altered, by king Henry the First, in the year 1121, for the purpose of bringing vessels from the Trent to the city; as well as for making a general drain for the adjacent level. From its passing through so flat a country the water could have but a slow current, whereby it became unnavigable from the increasing accumulation of mud, so that it was soon found necessary to cleanse it. To defray the expense certain sums of money were assessed on the lands that had been, or were to be, benefited by the drainage. And on complaint being made, in the time of Edward the Third, that the collectors converted the money to their own use, an order was made for an enquiry to be instituted, and commissioners were afterwards appointed to superintend in future the concern.

Of the *Marshes* on the river *Ancholme*, the first account on record is 16th of Edward the First. "The King then directing
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* Dugd. Imb. p. 194.

his writ of *Ad quod dampnum* to the shireeve of this county, to enquire whether it would be hurtful to him, or any other, if the course of that water, then obstructed, from a place called Bishop's Brigge, to the river of Humber, were opened, so that the current of the same might be reduced into its due and ancient channel. Whereupon a jury being impanelled accordingly and sworn, did say upon their oaths, that it would not be to the damage of the said king, nor any other; but rather for the common benefit of the whole county of Lincoln, if the course of that river, abstracted in part, in divers places, from Bishop's Brigge to the river of Humber, were open. And they further said, that by this means, not only the meadows and pastures would be drained, but that ships and boats laden with corn and other things, might then more commodiously pass with corn and other things from the said river Humber into the parts of Lindsey, than they at time could do, and as they had done formerly—where upon about two years following, the King did constitute Gilbert de Thorntone, John Dive, and Ralphe Paynell, his commissioners, to cause that channel to be so scoured and cleansed*.”

In succeeding reigns, various statutes were enacted for securing the marks, and rendering effectual the drainage of this part of the country.

The *Island of Arholme*, though now containing some of the richest land perhaps in the kingdom, was formerly one continued fen, occasioned by the silt thrown up the Trent with the tides of the Humber. This obstructing the free passage of the Dun and Idle, forced back their waters over the circumjacent lands, so that the higher central parts formed an island, which appellation they still retain. From this circumstance it became a place so defensible, that Roger Lord Mowbray, an eminent baron in the time of King Henry the Second, adhering to the interests of the younger Henry, who took up arms against his father, repaired with his retainers to this spot, fortified an old castle, and for some time set at defiance the king's forces who were sent to reduce him to

* Dudg. Imb. p. 150.

to obedience. The Lincolnshire men having no other means of access but by water, transported themselves over in boats, and discomfited the refractory baron*. In the reign of Henry the Third also, it afforded a retreat to many of the rebellious nobles after the battle of Evesham †.

But the inhabitants, stimulated by the example of the industrious cultivators of neighbouring districts, who, by embanking and draining, had greatly improved such fenny lands, turned their attention to this beneficial practice. "In the first of King Edward the Third, *Robert de Nottingham* and *Roger de Newmarch* were constituted commissioners, to review and repair those banks and ditches, as had been made to that purpose, which were then grown to some decay; so also were *John Darcey* of the park, *Roger de Newmarch*, and *John de Crosholme* ‡."

Several commissions were granted in succeeding reigns, for rendering more effectual those made at former periods. In the first year of Henry the fifth, by a commission then granted, it appears, that one *Geffrey Gaddesby*, late abbot of Selby, caused a long sluice of wood to be made upon the river Trent, at the head of a certain sewer, called the Mare-dyke, of a sufficient height and breadth for to fence out the sides from the sea, and also against the descent of the fresh waters from the west of the above specified sluice, to the said sewer into the Trent, and thence into the Humber. Which task he performed, "of his free good will and charity, for the ease of the country." This, in the time of his successor, *John de Shireburne*, was maliciously destroyed. The Abbot, however, to prevent such a disaster in future, had the sluices erected with stone, sufficiently strong, as he thought, for defence against the tides, as well as the fresh waters. But a jury being impanelled for the purpose of surveying the new works, reported, that they were both too high and too broad, and not sufficiently strong for the intended use. That it

would

* Flor. Hist. Anno 1174.

† Math. Paris, Anno 1276.

‡ Dugd. Imb. p. 142.

would be expedient for the advantage of the country, if it should meet the approbation of the abbot, that other sluices, formed of *timber*, should be set up, consisting of two flood gates; each containing in itself four feet in breadth, and six feet in height; as also a certain bridge upon the said sluices, in length and breadth sufficient for carts and other carriages to pass over. These, having stood one year, were reported stable by the commissioners. "The said abbot of Selby, Richard Amcotes, and others the freeholders of Crull-Amcotes, Waterton, Carlethorpe, Ludington, and Eltof, in the county of Lincoln, as also all the said towns in common, should, for their lands within that *soke*, be obliged of right to keep them in repair." The abbot was also requested "to make, without the said sluice, towards the river Trent, one *demmyng*, at the feast of Easter next ensuing." They also determined, "that the cleansing, scouring, repairing, &c. of the Maredyke" should lie with the said inhabitants in future.

In the beginning of the reign of Charles the First, that "commendable work" was commenced, which embraced not only the marshes of Axholme, but of all the adjacent fens, called Dikesmarsh and Hatfield Chase, in the county of York. These comprehended an extent of lands which were drowned not only in winter, but in summer were often so deeply covered with water, that boats could navigate over them to the extent of 60,000 acres.

These belonging chiefly to the crown, it was thought advisable, both for the good of the country and the increase of the royal revenue, that an attempt should be made to recover the same; and King Charles the Second did, under the great seal of England, contract for this purpose with Cornelius Vermuden, then of the city of London, Esq. by articles bearing date the 24th day of May, in the second year of his reign, A. D. 1626. The purport of the agreement was, that the said Vermuden should, at his own charge, drain the lands specified, in consideration of which he and his heirs for ever should hold of the king one full third part of the said surrounded grounds; that he should pay to the owners of such lands, lying within the same level,

level, and so surrounded, such sums as the lands should be deemed worth by four commissioners, two of whom to be nominated by Cornelius, and two by the lord treasurer of England, for the time being. When the works were finished, a corporation was to be formed of such persons as the said Cornelius, or his heirs, should nominate, to make acts and ordinances, as occasion might require, for the preservation of the same. That three years after that completion, six commissioners should be appointed to estimate what the annual charge might amount to, for their perpetual maintenance, and for conveying lands of sufficient value to support the said estimated charge. Commissioners also were appointed to ascertain the claims of those who pleaded a right in the commonable lands within the level, and to settle the same. "The agreement being therefore made, this great work was accordingly begun, and had so successful a progress, that, with the charge of 55,825*l.* or thereabouts, it became fully finished within the space of five years; the waters which usually overflowed the whole level being conveyed into the river Trent, through Snow-Sewer, and Althorpe river, by a sluice, which issued out the drained water at every ebb, and kept back the tides upon all comings-in thereof*."

WITHAM MARSHES, &c. It is traditionally affirmed, that large vessels could formerly sail up the river Witham from Boston to Lincoln; and from the ribs, timbers, &c. of ships that have been frequently found near it, the tradition seems to be justified. At present, however, it is only adapted for barges; and the flow of the current is so small, that it does not cleanse the bed of the river. The first notice of the great inconveniences arising from the obstruction of its waters, appears in the sixth year of Edward the Third, *Henry de Fienton*, *William de Dysney*, and *Thomas de Sibthorpe*, being in that year constituted the king's commissioners for surveying the same, between the town of

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O o

Beckingham

* Dugd. Imbank. See more a'so in "State of the Case," printed London, A. D. 1676.

Beckingham and the city of Lincoln. By a report from these persons it appeared, that the river was so obstructed by "sand, mud, flood-gates, sluices, mills," &c. that the waters were frequently turned out of their proper channel, and thus hindered in their course, were continually inundating the adjacent levels, and doing great injury to the occupiers of the lands.—And a presentment being made in the thirty-seventh year of the same reign to *John de Repynghale* and *H. Asty*, the king's commissioners, then sitting at Newark, for the view of the said river, the jurors gave a verdict for the removal of a mill and flood-gates, belonging to the Knights Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem. About two years afterwards, another presentment was made in the Court of King's Bench, when it appeared, that by the neglect of a sewer, called Mardyke, in Coningesby, the marshes of Wildmore and Bolingbroke were overflowed, through the fault of the said town of Coningesby; the inhabitants of which, as they ought, were ordered to repair the same.

By various surveys and presentments, other parts of this river were viewed in different reigns, and various regulations made for restraining the waters within due bounds, and delivering the land floods speedily to the sea. But more effectual measures were thought necessary to be adopted for furthering the design, and recourse was had to Flanders*, for procuring an able engineer to execute it.

A council was held the fifteenth of King Henry the Seventh, to deliberate on the best means to be adopted on this occasion. The principal members which formed it were, *My Lord of Duresme*, *My Lord of St. John*, *Sir John Finneux*, *Sir Richard Gilford*, *Sir Ranold Gray*, and *Sir Thomas Lovell*. They concluded,

* The following particulars, relating to this subject, are derived from a series of interesting documents which have been preserved among the archives of the corporation of Boston, a copy of which was furnished me by Mr. Rennie, the able engineer, who is now engaged in prosecuting and effecting what Hake began in the time of Henry the Seventh.

cluded, that a sluice should be made at Boston, "after the mind of Mayhake; that an agreement be made with him for performing the same, and rewarding him and his men. For this purpose, an assessment to be made, and the sum of 1000*l.* borrowed of the king, lords, and great possessioners, till it could be levied by the commissioners of sewers, according to the law of Romney Marche, whence a bailiff, juratts, and levellers, were to be obtained. The bailiff to have, for himself and servant, per diem, 2*s.* 4*d.* every of the said juratts, 1*s.* 4*d.* and each leveller 1*s.*" New commissioners were chosen, consisting of the abovenamed council and others, who were instructed to ascertain the number of acres; order statute duty to be performed, till the work was finished; levy contributions; send ships to Calais for Hake and his companions skilled in imbanking and draining, and materials for the work; appoint proper officers for directing and expediting the same; and whatever else might fall under the necessary management of the concern.

By a deed of agreement, drawn up by the order of his Majesty in council, the fifteenth year of his reign, between *Sir John Husse*, Knight, and *John Robinson*, of the one part, and *Mayhave Hake*, of Graveling, "in the parts" of Flanders on the other part, it appears, that the said Hake covenants to bring with him, from Flanders, fourteen masons, and four labourers, to make a proper sluice and dam, near the town of Boston, sufficient for its future safeguard. The said Mayhave Hake, and his companions, to be remunerated for their labour by the following wages:—

"Mahave Hake to have, for himself and man, holy day as well as common day, per diem, 4*s.* The masons and stonehewers, per week, 5*s.* The labourers, per week, 4*s.* The said Mahave Hake, after the work was fully completed, to receive an additional reward of 50*l.* Should any more workmen be necessary, during the progress of the work, they should be provided at the expence of the inhabitants of Boston and the level of Holland and Kesteven."

The engineer further agreed, to make "sure purveyance," at Calais, of iron work, and all other stuff or materials necessary for the accomplishment of the sluice, &c. The costs and charges of the whole to be borne by the inhabitants of Boston and the level aforesaid. And by a writ issued the 8th day of March, to the mayors, sheriffs, bailiffs, constables, &c. the contracting parties were allowed "to take and retain, at competent wages, such, and as many workemen, laborers, and artificers, and alsoe as much timber, stone, and other things, together with carts and carriages for the same, at pryce resonable, as they shall think necessary and behoveful for the speedy performance of such works, as be requisite to be done in the said partes." And the King's officers were required to aid and assist, in procuring such necessary articles, from time to time, under pain of meeting the King's displeasure. In "the remembrancer of diverse articles, when examination was to be made respecting the sluice at Boston, dated the 13th of May, fifteenth year of Henry the Seventh," are the following curious items.

"Item, that it is determined, that forthwith they," the masons, &c. "shall begin and labour upon the makeing the said sluice.

"Item, that provision be made for stuff in all goodlye haste, for the makeing the said sluice.

"Item, that all such broke and ould houseinge, as be within the town of Boston, be had and taken at a reasonable price, for the making of the said sluice.

"Item, it is agreed, that Mayhave Hake shall have with him William Robinson and his man; and the said William shall have, for him, his servant and horse, for the costs at such time as they shall be desiered to ride about the makeing of the said sluice, every *wake* 10s. and likewise at whome, when they ride not.

"Item, it is ordeined, that every mann, as expenditors, and other by them to be assigned, with two horses, being on business for the makeing of the said sluice, shall have, by the day, 1s. 8d. and a man with one horse, 1s.

"Item, that the said expenditors shall have a clerk of sewers
for

for the work, such as My Ladyes Grace shall appoint, which shall weekeley have, for him and his servant, 8s.

“Item, that provision of all manner of stuffe concerning the said sluice be made and provided by the said expeditors, and the workemen to the same.

“Item, that Mathew, or Mahave Hake, be contented of his wages for him and his masons, according to the indenture made between My Lady's Grace and the said Mathew.”

These items allude to an indenture made subsequent to that in which Sir John Husse, Knight, was a party, between the high and mighty Princesse Margaret, mother to the King, Countesse of Richmond and Darby, on the one part, and Mathew Hake on the other. Whereby it is stipulated, that he and his masons should have no further allowance than was made in the indenture, bearing date the 19th of February preceeding; “and alsoe other masons and workmen, taken for the said workes, to have such wages as the expeditors and the clerk of sewers over the works shall agree with them for. And for reward, and in recompense of fourteen masons and twenty-four workmen, and other demands, he shall abide the order and rules of the said Princes and the King's Counsaile. Dated May 13th, fifteenth of Henry the Seventh.”

In the above manuscript is contained a list of the principal articles that were to be provided for the necessary conducting the work, and the places pointed out whence they ought to be procured. The iron especially, was to be purchased in that part of France then belonging to the crown of England. As the items relating to this article may tend to throw some light on the state of one part of our manufactures, as well as ascertain the price of the most useful metal at the period in question, it may be desirable to insert it. This will be seen by the following items; being the charges of “iron made and bought at Callis, for Boston sluice, in anno 1500*.”

O o 3

First

* The iron consisted of bars, small cramps, long cramps, rings with cramps, great chains, hoops, pyms, hookes, great bands, bolts for locks and keys, and great *scherys*.

	£.	s.	d.
First paid to James Locker, for 4012lbs. iron, pryce } the lb. 2d. sm̄d.	33	8	8
Item, paid ste. to Mayhake, līna.	0	18	0
Item, paid pro. two dozen of great maunds	0	5	0
Item, paid pro. two dozen of pannes	0	14	0
Item, paid for five mortar troughs	0	4	2
Item, paid for two dozen of little maunds	0	2	8
Item, for two dozen of water scoopes.....	0	7	6
Item, two dozen of base rape	0	6	0
Item, paid for the carriage of the said stuff	0	1	0
	36	7	0

For defraying the expenditure, a rate was made upon the lands lying in the contiguous wapentakes, according to the allotment of the commissioners. But while the assessment was making, and preparing to be levied, an order of council was issued, "That such as had lands within the said level should advance, by way of *prest*, the sum of ten pounds; a moyety to be paid immediately, and the other moyety to be surely sent and delivered at the town of Boston, in the following May. And in case that after levying of the scotts, after the usage of the marches, any person's part extended not fully to the sum advanced by way of *prest*, the remainder was to be repaid." This order was signed at the King's Manor of Greenwich, the 21st day of February, the fifteenth of Henry the Seventh.

By a rate made in the time of Margaret, Countess of Richmond, for the repair of Boston sluice, the first assessment amounted to the sum of 367l. 1s. 9½d. on the different townships subject to the levy. From another account, written by Dr. Brown, it appears, that much benefit accrued from the work, though it was not done agreeably to the first intention. "Afore the sluice was made, at a full spring in winter, when the flood and fresh water did meet together at Dockdyke, the salt water and fresh water strove soe together, that the water ran soe over the

the banks of both sides the haven, that it drowned all the common fen; soe that men might have roome with boates from Garwich to Boston towne: and likewise from Boston to Kirkeby land side.—And that the sea bankes and fen bankes were at double more charge, than they be now.”

To the north and north-east of the Witham, whose outlet to the sea was intended to be facilitated, and the adjacent lands benefited by the work just mentioned, lies the large fenny tracts called *Wildmore Fen*, *West Fen*, and *East Fen*.

Upon a writ of *Ad quod damnum*, in the forty-first of Queen Elizabeth, concerning the draining of these, it appears, that in East Fen 5000 acres were drowned, half of which was then considered drainable, and the other half irrecoverably lost; and that the commons and severalties on the borders of the said fen, contained about 3400 acres, the whole of which was surrounded. At a session of sewers held at Boston, the 15th of May, sixth of Charles the First, a recital was made, by virtue of a decree, that the greater part of these lands, whose bounds are stated, were surrounded grounds in the winter season. It was therefore decreed, that the outfall at Wainfleet-haven should be deepened and enlarged, the various gowts cleansed, and all other necessary works done for draining the extent of country taken in the survey. Each acre of land receiving benefit by the said drainage to pay ten shillings. The money to be paid into the hands of Sir Anthony Thomas, Knight, and the rest of the undertakers, after the work was completed, or proportionably as it might be done.

At another session of sewers, held the 15th of April, A. D. 1631, a decree was made, “That Sir Anthony Thomas, and his participants, for their expences, should not only have the one half of the said East Fen, and a third of all the severals adjoining thereto; and likewise the fourth part of all the surrounding grounds lying in the West Fen, and the severals thereto adjoining, limited and appointed to them by a former decree, but some farther augmentation in certain other particular places*.”

O o 4

Notwithstanding

* Dugd. Imb. p. 423.

Notwithstanding the early and continued attention, which, from this historical view, appears to have been devoted to the improvement of this marshy country, the frequent interference of the Legislature, and the immense sums expended in different periods on its drainages, the progress has not been adequate to the exertions made: indeed, often the beneficial effects have been retrograde, and the attainment of the object is still a desideratum, in plans for the amelioration of the soil. This has arisen from various causes:—From want of proper levels having been taken for the drains when they were first made, by which means, through the occasional superfluity of waters from beneath the soil, and the addition of the upland waters in time of floods, the country could only be temporarily or partially drained. The smallness of the gowts and sluices not being sufficiently wide to deliver the superabundant waters to the sea or rivers, they have again been refluxed on the adjacent lands. The Commissioners of these sewers, frequently inattentive to the state of the dykes and gowts, and often misled by the ignorance of engineers, or warped by the prejudice and interest of a party, have not always conducted their enquiries, or exerted their powers, for the general benefit. The difference of seasons also makes a wide alteration in the state of the outfalls. If the summer proves particularly dry, the quantity of silt which settles in the mouths of the rivers, or in those Estuaries, called the Washes, is so great, that it requires the floods in winter to continue several weeks to scour it away, and cleanse the openings to the sea. During this time the gates are *over-ride*, that is, the water is so high as to prevent their use; and the fens become the receptacle of the waters, which arise from beneath, that fall on their surface, or descend from the high lands: and in addition to these, inundations frequently happen from the rivers by the bursting of the defensive banks. Thus the accumulation of water becomes so great that the outlets are not sufficient for its discharge; and the principal part of the spring is gone before it can be all carried off, to the annoyance of the occupier, and to the injury of the proprietor,

prietor. Many, however, have been the attempts to remedy these evils, and a spirit of improvement, within these few years past, seems to have pervaded all ranks of people in this extensive county.

“ *Deeping Fen*, which extends most of the eleven miles from that town to Spalding, is a very capital improvement by draining. Twenty years ago the lands sold for about 3*l.* an acre; some was then let at 7*s.* or 8*s.* an acre; and a great deal was in such a state, that no body would rent it. Now it is in general worth 20*s.* an acre, and sells at 20*l.* an acre: 10,000 acres of it are taxable under Commissioners, pay up to 20*s.* an acre, but so low as 2*s.* average 4*s.* including poor rates, and all tithes free. The free land also sells from 15*l.* to 20*l.* an acre and more, three or four years ago*.”

Mr. Stone, however, furnishes us with a considerable drawback upon this flattering account, and suggests some useful hints towards a more favourable prospect—“ The drainage of Deeping fen, he says, so improperly commended by Mr. Young, is chiefly effected by three wind-engines, above Spalding, that lift the Deeping fen water into the river Welland, the bed of which, I apprehend, is now higher than the land intended to be drained, assisted by a side cut, called the West Load, which falls into the Welland, just below Spalding; and which district, in violent floods, in a calm, when the engines cannot work, is reduced to a most deplorable condition, more especially when the banks of the Welland are overflowed or give way, as happened in 1798, in consequence of an accumulated weight of water, occasioned by violent floods, and the obstructions met with below from the choaking sands†.”

An act passed in 1794, for improving the outfall of the river Welland, better draining the low lands of South-Holland, and discharging their waters into the sea. The leading point in this scheme is to cut a deep canal, like the Eau-Bank, from the reservoir

* Young's General View.

† Review of the Agric. Surv. of Lincoln, p. 142.

servoir below Spalding, capable of receiving the whole waters of the Welland, and conveying them into the Witham below Boston, by a lower and more certain outfall than the present, at Wyburton road.

A cut was also proposed to be made from a place, called Peter's Point, to Wheatmeer drain, near the Hamlet at Peakhill. This appears to be part of a scheme suggested by Lord Chief Justice Popham, in the century before the last, and afterwards partially acted upon by Vermuden, Colonel Dodson, and several other engineers, from that period to the present. The lying dormant of such plans for so long a time, portions only having been adopted, and few new ideas started respecting any thing more comprehensive, proves, that while other parts of useful improvements had been going forward towards perfection, the subject of Fen-drainage had for a long season been in a state of slumber; occasionally waked to small intervals of activity, but never roused to effectual energy. The exertions, however, which have, at times, been made, must not pass unnoticed. "In that long reach of fen, which extends from Tattershall to Lincoln, a vast improvement by imbanking and draining, has been ten years effecting. The first act passed in 1787 or 1788, and through a senseless opposition an extent of a mile in breadth was left out lest the waters should in floods be too much confined, and the other side of the river be overflowed; better ideas, however, having taken place, a new act to take in the river has passed. This is a vast work, which, in the whole, has drained, enclosed, and built, and cultivated between twenty and thirty square miles of country (including the works now undertaking.) Its produce before little, letting for not more than 1s. 6d. an acre; now from 11s. to 17s. an acre. It is subject to the tax of 1s. an acre to the Witham drainage, and not exceeding 1s. 6d. to its own. Land here now sells at 25l. an acre.

"In the northern part of the county the *drainage of the Ancholme* is another great work, extending from Bishop Bridge to the Humber, in a curved line; but by an act passed about thirty years

years ago, it was carried in a straight line through the level, for the purposes of draining and navigation. Before the draining it was worth but from 1s. to 3s. 6d. an acre; now it is from 10s. to 30s. much of it arable, and much of it in grass.

“The Lowlands that are taxed to the drainage amount to seventeen thousand one hundred and ninety-seven acres, the tax amounts to 2,140l. per ann. or 2s. 6d. an acre. It is now chiefly pasture and meadow; but the *cars* which were rough and rushy have been pared and burned, and sowed with rape for sheep, and then with oats for a crop or two; and on the better parts some wheat, then laid to grass: there is not a great deal kept under the plough*.”

Though a great portion of the land in this district is very valuable, and much has been done to improve the rest; yet a large quantity still remains in an unprofitable state. It appears by Mr. Stone's account, and as he was one of the commissioners under the act he ought to be a competent judge, that the engineers were improperly limited by the act, to drain into the river Trent. The work was executed to the best of their judgment, and as well as the situation of the country would admit. In the execution of the plan 20,000l. were expended; and though now several years have expired since its completion, yet the desired effects have not followed. The floods of the upper, and the tides of the lower, part of the river have often overflowed the works, whereby the lowlands, comprising some thousands of acres, have, during the greater part of the year, been under water: and unless more effectual works shall be added, by means of steam engines or some other mode, to lift the water into the Trent, the most valuable part of the district will be absolutely useless for the purposes of grazing or agriculture.

Mr. Stone is of opinion also, that upwards of fifty thousand acres in Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, and Lincolnshire, which are now flooded, will ever continue to be overflowed until the present plan of draining into the Trent shall be given up. And he

* Young's General View, &c. p. 241.

he further thinks, that an effectual drainage might have been accomplished by means of a new river, cut in a parallel direction with the course of the Trent, on the western banks of it; so that a certain competent outfall might have been obtained below Aldingfleet. And that the contribution of the Isle commoners, to the general expense of such an undertaking, would not have amounted to above a moiety of what they have already incurred in an ineffectual attempt*. He next adverts to the drainage of what are called the *Low-Marshes*, which, besides thousands of acres of fen, contain a species of wet unproductive land, for which there is no drainage, bearing the appellation of *rotten-land*, because sheep depastured upon it are subject to the rot, and frequently are destroyed. A drain, with lateral cuts in the lowest line between the middle and lower marshes, carried to an outfall, which might be made near Wainfleet, would effectually, he suggests, drain this part of the north eastern district.

Mr. Parkinson has furnished a Table of the Improvements in Drainage, by different Acts, under which he was a Commissioner; which will serve to give some Idea of the Proceedings within a few years past.

	Acres.	Improved Value.	Old Value.	Improvement.
		£.	£.	£.
Tattershall Imbankment	892	838	387	450
Alnwick Fen.....	1,097	703	54	648
The Nine imbanked } Fens to Lincoln.... }	19,418	15,534	1,941	13,592
Holland Fen Eleven } Towns }	22,000	25,300	3,600	21,700
Total.....	43,407	42,375	5,982	36,390

From

* Review of the Agric. Survey of Lincoln, p. 167.

From this statement, and some minor improvements, which fall under this description by various individuals, more especially Sir Joseph Banks, at Revesby; Mr. Young exults on the subject, and thinks wonders have been performed in this way, yet acknowledges, that “about Mavis, Enderby, Bolinbroke, &c. the wetness of the sides of the hills is lamentable; bogs are so numerous, that he is a desperate fox-hunter who ventures to ride here without being well acquainted with the ground. I have rarely seen a country that wants exertions in draining more than this. Many similar springy sides of hills are to be met with all the way to Ranby, and thence by Oxcomb to Louth*.”

This remark serves to illustrate a statement made by Mr. Stone, which, as it is unconnected with any details of particular spots, would otherwise amount to no more than mere assertion. “There are upwards of three hundred thousand acres of land at this time, 1800, in Lincolnshire, suffering at least on an average 300,000*l.* a year for want of an efficient drainage, which might be carried into effect for one or two year’s improved value; and upon the borders of the county nearly the same quantity of land connected with it, capable of the same improvement by similar means. When this statement shall be explained, and the truth of the remark established, what will become of the table of forty-three thousand four hundred and seven acres†.”

Though flattering prospects from past exertions are too apt to relax our present energies, yet a too great respect for our own views and capabilities should not make us fastidious, or induce us to disparage the laudable attempts of those who have preceded us, nor illiberally to undervalue the labours of others.

Whoever has travelled with an observant eye through the county of Lincoln, marked its peculiar situation and characteristic features, and made himself thus acquainted with its present state, and compared this with its appearance and productions in different periods

* General Review, p. 245.

† Review of Survey, p. 133.

periods of its history, will be little inclined to animadvert severely on the present inhabitants, or to think lightly of the attempts which have been made by their predecessors: for in this connected view it will appear, that in no county in the kingdom have equal exertions been used, in the important work of drainage. Without going back to very remote periods it is estimated, that not less than one hundred and fifty thousand acres have been drained, and thus improved from the value of 5s. and some much under, per acre, to 1l. 5s. per acre, whereby a rental is created upon lands of previous insignificant value, to the amount of 150,000l. per annum; nor is this all the benefit which has accrued: the provisions have been increased, and the climate rendered more salubrious; fens covered with water and mud, stagnating for months, inhabited by fowls or frogs, have thus been rendered fit for grazing or the plough; and the contaminating influence of its ague giving waters for ever banished to the briny ocean. While health has been fostered, individuals have been enriched, and society greatly benefitted. Plans carried to such an extent, and at such an immense expense, as many of these have been, may justly be denominated great works. "And when, with the views of a political arithmetician, we reflect on the circulation that has attended this creation of wealth through industry, the number of people supported, the consumption of manufactures, the shipping employed, and all the classes of community benefitted; the magnitude and importance of such works will be seen, and the propriety well understood, of giving all imaginable encouragement and facility to their execution*."

These remarks are judicious, and their importance, as well as others of a similar kind made on the subject, have been appreciated by those most interested in the improvements to which they relate. A plan has been proposed, and is now executing under the direction of that very scientific and able engineer, Mr. John Rennie, by which Wildmore, with East and West Fens, will

* Young's General View, p. 246.

will be *effectually drained*; and the low lands of this part of the county, by this means become, as they actually are in many others, the most productive in the kingdom.

Mr. Rennie was employed, with proper surveyors, to view the situation of the abovementioned fens, the different drains, and out-fall gowts, which conveyed their waters to the sea,—to point out the defects of the then existing system, and the best methods of supplying them, or suggesting a new and better plan for a more effectual drainage of those levels. Upon this subject he printed his first Report in 1800, and with that penetration which marks the superior mind, and that comprehensiveness which evinces perspicuity of judgment; he quickly discovered the cause of the evils, which had been so long complained of after repeated attempts to remove them. Viewing their actual state, the remedy instantly presented itself. The first object which struck him was the out-fall; the second, the discharging the water which falls on the surface of the fens, or which arises in them; the third, the intercepting and carrying off the up or high land water, without allowing it to descend into, and overflow the fens. Each of these necessary points had at times been canvassed; but never generally and unitedly adopted in any previous system. This was reserved for the scientific mind of our present engineer, who, after describing the nature of these fens, divides them according to the usual mode; but from the levels, which were taken on the occasion, he was induced to place Wildmore and West Fens in one draining plan, and East-Fen in another. In the drainage of the former the outlet was made by Anton's Gout or Maudfoister, the gates of which he found were too narrow for the quantity of water occasionally to be discharged through them; and that the sills of these, as well as those of the grand sluice, were too high for the level of the country, so as to admit, in their present state, of an efficient drainage, not to mention the want of attention to secure the water of the high lands from running into the fens.

Mr. Rennie then gives a scheme, first for draining Wildmore
Fen

Fen separately; then for draining Wildmore and West Fen jointly. Respecting these he remarks, That the present drainage is made through Anton's Gowt, about two miles and a half above Boston, and Maudfoster a little below it. The former of which, considered a most essential outfall, has a single pair of doors with a clear opening of fourteen feet two inches; an aperture not large enough to discharge the water usually conducted to it; and in time of flood it is over-ride by the Witham, which frequently keeps the doors shut for weeks together. The water which should discharge through them is forced back along Medlam drain, and West House sike, and is obliged to find a passage by other drains to Maudfoster. The sill of Anton's Gowt is two feet three inches higher than the sill of Maudfoster, and the surface of the water at different times considerably higher; whence he infers, that no effectual drainage of these fens can be made by any alterations, while the out-fall still continues at Anton's Gowt. Viewing it therefore in all points, and after giving a scheme for the separate drainage of Wildmore-fen, he concludes, That the general surface of the low lands of these fens, being about one height, may be drained by one out-fall.—That as their surface lies about nine feet above the sill of Maudfoster's Gowt, and the water on the sill at neap tides is only six feet, and at spring tides four feet nine inches, there will be a fall of three feet in the one case, and four feet three inches in the other; which he considers sufficient for the extent of level. He then proposes a cut to be made from Medlam-drain at Swinecoat's inclosure, thence to Collins's bridge, a length of eleven miles and a half; having a fall from three to four inches and one-tenth per mile. A straight cut was also to be made from the junction of How-bridge drain with Newham drain, to the drain proposed above to Collins's-bridge. This forms a line of thirteen miles, with a fall of two inches two-tenths per mile, during neap tides. Other drains are intended to be made, when the inclosures are laid out. It appears from this Report, that nearly twelve thousand acres of high lands drain their superfluous waters by the different *becks*,
which

which pass through these fens, the quantity per day is often sufficient to cover the whole surface three-tenths of an inch deep; and in wet seasons much more. To discharge this Mr. Rennie proposed a catch-water drain, to commence near the Witham in Coningsby, skirting the high lands to near Hagnaby corner, there to join Gote-sike drain through Fen-side drain; and thence by a new channel to Maudfoster Gowt. The length from the mouth of the river Bain to Maudfoster Gowt is twenty-one miles, and the rise is little more than fourteen feet. This will give a fall to the water at the said Gowt of eight feet, or about four inches and a half per mile, but it may admit of five inches. He then proposes a new Gowt to be constructed near Maudfoster, with three openings, each fifteen feet wide; one of which to be appropriated, in times of flood, to the discharge of the waters conducted by the catch-water drain; but in ordinary cases these are to form a junction. This taking the water which fall or issue from 40,000 acres of land through Maudfoster, will cause so ample a scour, as to prevent the silt from accumulating to any great degree, and keep the out-fall in a proper and useful state. By this scheme also the drains are to be made sufficiently capacious to admit of such vessels as are generally used in the fens, being navigated upon them; for this purpose locks are to be constructed, to permit them to pass into and out of the Witham, and to form a communication with each other. Also, sluices with penstocks to admit of running water from the brooks to the fens, for the use of cattle during the summer months.

Respecting the drainage of the *East Fen* and the *East Holland Towns* Mr. Rennie observes, that some parts of these, at present, drain through Maudfoster Gowt, and others have separate Gowts at Fishtoft and Butterwick; but part of the waters at Friskney are raised by an engine, and sent afterwards to sea by a small gowt. The general surface of East Fen is eight feet above the sill at Maudfoster, and but five feet six inches above that at Wainfleet; whence, as the distance is nearly equal from the centre, in the one case, the fall would be but one inch and five-tenths

per mile; and in the other much less; whence he concludes, that no efficient drainage, in the present state of Boston harbour, can be effected by either of those out-falls.

On mature consideration, Mr. Rennie thought the only effectual place, through which the East Fen and the lower grounds in East Holland could be drained, is a little lower than where the present Gowt of Fishtoft is situated. He proposes therefore a new gowt of larger dimensions to be made about a quarter of a mile below the present. From the level taken, through an extent of sixteen miles, the fall appears to be at the lower part two inches and a quarter per mile, and in the higher part five inches. A new drain is to be cut from what are called the Deeps, and turning southward to empty into the river near Fishtoft, about five miles below Boston. This, with proper side drains, Mr. Rennie thinks would form a complete drainage for the whole of this district, a few acres of the Pits or Deeps excepted. The high land waters he proposes should be sent, by a channel joining Fen drain at Shottles, to the Gowt at Maudfoster. The quantity of water descending from 38,424 acres will keep the Gowt open, and as there are but few obstructions from sands near Fishtoft, the out-fall will always be in good order; at least in the same state with the river itself at the proposed place.

This Report was printed April 7, 1800, and the estimates for carrying these grand schemes into effect is stated thus :

	£.	s.	d.
Draining Wildmore Fen separately.....	29,702	0	0
Draining Wildmore and West Fens jointly.....	103,262	0	0
Draining East Fen and East Holland Towns	81,908	0	0

By a revision of the schemes in the above Report, after the former levels were proved, and new ones taken, Mr. Rennie gave in to the Proprietors a second Report; in which, from having again surveyed the fens in a more favourable season, he is of opinion, that no material alteration can be made for the better, in the
scheme

scheme for Wildmore and the West Fens; but that some improvements may be made, not in the principle, but in the disposition of some drains in the scheme proposed for draining the East Fen.

It was judged proper to be thus particular respecting these Reports, because the grand works therein specified are now carrying into execution, and when completed will not only occasion this part of the country to wear a more cheerful appearance, and be highly advantageous to the inhabitants, but be a lasting monument of the spirit of the land proprietors, and the skill and ability of the engineer.

Amongst the many agricultural improvements, *Irrigation*, or the plan of watering meadows, so successfully practised in other counties, does not appear to have been pursued in this. Arthur Young mentions a solitary instance. But a plan of using water for fertilizing the soil is adopted, which is peculiar to this part of the kingdom, and principally practised in this county. This is called *WARPING*, and is a perfectly simple process. It consists in permitting the tide to run over the land at high water, and letting it off at low. It is very different from irrigation, for the effect here is not produced by water, but by mud, which is not meant so much to manure the land as to create a surface. The kind of land that is intended to be *warped* is of little consequence; for the warp deposited will, in the course of one summer, raise it from six to sixteen inches, and in hollow places more, so as to leave the whole extent a level of rich soil, consisting of sand and mud, of vast fertility. Its component parts appear to be argillaceous and silicious earths, with portions of mica, marine salt, and mucilage. Whence this warp is derived has been a subject of dispute, because the waters at the mouth of the Humber, when the tide flows, are observed to be transparent. But whoever examines the Estuary further inland, and the tides as they roll up the Trent, Dun, Ouse, and other rivers, cannot be at a moment's loss to discover the cause. The soil of the rich lands through which

they shape their course, is carried down by the currents, and meeting with the sea water, which is charged with saline, silicious, and other particles, unite, and are carried back by the reflux tide. When the waters remain at rest, they instantly deposit their contents. Young says, "That in summer, if a cylindrical glass, twelve or fifteen inches long, be filled with it, it will presently deposite an inch, and sometimes more, of what is called *warp*."

POLITICAL CHARACTER of the county. It has been remarked, that Lincolnshire, like Yorkshire and the county of Devon, from their extent and opulence, are neither of them under the influence of any individual, and that in cases of contested elections, the freedom of the people is not so liable to corruption as in small counties and property boroughs. Another evil, however, arises from this extent of territory and number of freemen: an opposition seldom occurs, for the men of greatest riches and landed property obtain a preponderating influence, and the dread of ruinous expense prevents any opposition. This county returns twelve members to the United Parliament; two for the shire, two for the city, and two from each of the following boroughs:—*Boston*, *Grantham*, *Great Grimsby*, and *Stamford*. *Spalding* and *Wainfleet* returned members in the eleventh year of the reign of Edward the Third.

A TABLE

OF THE POPULATION, &c. OF LINCOLNSHIRE,

As published by authority of Parliament, in 1801 ; with the names
of the Divisions, Hundreds, Towns, &c.

Wapentakes, Hundreds, and Towns.	Houses.	Persons.		Occupations.		Total Persons.
		Male.	Female.	Chiefly em- ployed in Agriculture	Trade, Ma- nufactures, or Handi- crafts.	
HOLLAND DIVISION contains 3 <i>Hundreds</i> , 5 <i>Market Towns</i> , and 36 <i>Villages</i> .						
Elloe, Wapentake	3,764	9,010	8,895	5,173	1,477	17,905
Kirton, do.	2,106	5,097	5,282	3,517	661	10,379
Shirbeck, do.	808	2,007	1,935	1,430	174	3,942
Boston, Town.....	1,252	2,698	3,228	91	866	5,926
KESTEVEN DIVISION is subdi- vided into 9 <i>Hundreds</i> and 3 <i>Soke</i> ; which contain 7 <i>Mar- ket Towns</i> , & 190 <i>Villages</i> .						
Aswardhun, Wapentake	968	2,661	2,298	1,298	396	4,959
Aveland, do.....	1,383	3,340	3,558	1,245	616	6,898
Bettisloe, do.	930	2,399	2,359	458	2,562	4,758
Boothby, do. High and Low Divisions	1,062	2,632	2,655	1,883	352	5,287
Flexwell, do.	795	1,852	1,929	1,279	413	3,781
Langoe, do. first and se- cond Divisions	890	2,439	2,364	2,132	271	4,803
Loveden, do.	1,177	2,899	2,999	2,267	528	5,898
Ness, do.	1,034	2,476	2,545	1,785	562	5,021
Winnibriggs and Threw, do.	791	1,933	1,918	1,387	357	3,851
Grantham, Town, and Soke	1,457	3,377	3,637	1,453	1,124	7,014
Stamford, Town	701	1,826	2,196	106	2,198	4,022
LINDSEY DIVISION is subdi- vided into 15 <i>Hundreds</i> and 2 <i>Sokes</i> ; which contain 1 <i>City</i> , 19 <i>Market Towns</i> , and 431 <i>Villages</i> .						
Aslaoe Wapentake, East and West	673	1,655	1,711	914	201	3,366
	19,791	48,501	49,509	26,418	12,753	97,810

Wapentakes, Hundreds, and Towns.	Houses.	Persons.		Occupations.		Total Persons.
		Males.	Females	Chiefly em- ployed in Agriculture	Trades, Ma- nufacture, or Handi- crafts.	
LINDSEY DIVISION CON- tinued.						
Brought over	19,791	4,501	49,509	26,418	12,758	97,810
Bolingbrocke Soke, Last and West	1,343	3,231	3,394	3,303	634	6,625
Bradley Haverstoe, Wa- pentake	1,327	3,418	3,575	1,692	645	6,993
Calceworth, Hundred, Marsh and Wold Di- visions	1,182	3,562	3,718	2,148	476	7,275
Candleshoe, Wapentake, Marsh and Wold Di- visions	999	2,651	2,797	1,690	473	5,448
Corringham, Wapentake	2,128	4,410	4,772	2,046	1,323	9,213
Gartree, do. N. and S. Di- visions	912	2,427	2,361	1,424	229	4,788
Hill, Hundred	427	1,214	1,129	898	149	2,343
Horncastle, Soke	1,603	2,475	2,508	1,206	468	4,983
Lawress, Wapentake	1,033	2,527	2,505	1,595	406	5,230
Louth Eske, Hundred, Marsh and Wold Di- visions	1,286	4,655	4,869	2,175	761	9,524
Ludborough, Wapentake . .	216	521	550	451	42	1,051
Manley, do. 1st, 2d, and 3d Divisions	3,345	7,942	8,223	6,450	1,878	16,165
Walscroft, do. N. and S. Divisions	369	2,362	2,292	1,466	395	4,655
Well, do.	462	1,073	1,098	1,204	271	2,171
Wraggoc, do. East and West Divisions	655	2,279	2,248	1,749	326	4,527
Yarborough, do. E. S. and N. Divisions	2,682	6,293	6,465	3,849	1,345	12,758
Lincoln, City	1,574	3,474	3,924	711	1,696	7,398
Total	12,189	102,445	106,112	60,584	24,265	208,557

In

In the "*Abstract of the answers and returns made, pursuant to an Act (43 Geo. III.) for procuring returns relative to the maintenance of the Poor in England,*" it is observed, respecting LINCOLNSHIRE, "That in the year 1776, Returns were received from 691 'Parishes or Places;' in 1785 the Returns were 693; and those of the year 1803 were 701." It is then further stated, that "One hundred and thirty-one parishes or places maintain all, or part of, their Poor *in* workhouses. The number of persons so maintained, during the year ending Easter, 1803, was 1,112; and the expence incurred therein, amounted to 14,936l. 11s. 4d. being at the rate of 13l. 8s. 7½d. for each person so maintained. By the returns of 1776, there were then forty-seven workhouses, capable of accommodating 1,114 persons.—The number of persons relieved, *out* of workhouses, was 17,733, besides 3,091 who were not parishioners. The expence incurred in the relief of the poor, *not in* workhouses, amounted to 80,638l. 10s. 8¾d. A large proportion of those who were not parishioners, appear to have been vagrants; and therefore it is probable that the relief given to this class could not exceed two shillings each, amounting to 309l. 2s. which, being deducted from the 80,638l. 10s. 8¾d. leaves 80,329l. 8s. 8¾d. being at the rate of 4l. 10s. 7d. for each parishioner relieved out of any workhouse.—The number of persons relieved *in* and *out* of workhouses was 18,845, besides those who were not parishioners. Excluding the expence supposed to be incurred in the relief of this class, all other expences, relative to the maintenance of the poor, amounted to 100,586l. 8s. 5d. being at the rate of 5l. 6s. 9d. for each parishioner relieved.—The resident population of the county of Lincoln, in the year 1801, appears, from the Population Abstract, to have been 208,557; so that the number of parishioners relieved from the poor's rate appears to be nine in a hundred of the resident population.—The number of persons belonging to friendly societies appears to be four in a hundred of the resident population.—The amount of the total money raised by rates appears to average at 14s. per head on the

population.—The amount of the whole expenditure, on account of the poor, appears to average at 9s. 8d. per head on the population.—The expenditure in suits of law, removal of paupers, and expences of overseers and other officers, amounts to 5,320l. 8s. 4½d. The amount of such expenditure, by the return of 1785, was 2,168l. 10s. 3d.—The expenditure in purchasing materials for employing the poor, amounts to 948l. 3s. 4¾d. The amount of such expenditure in 1785 was 479l. 19s. 9d.—The poor of eighteen parishes or places in this county are farmed, or maintained under contract.—The poor of the city of Lincoln are maintained and employed under the regulations of a special act of parliament.”

LINDSEY, or as called by Bede, *Lindissi*, is the largest of the three DIVISIONS of Lincolnshire, and occupies nearly one half of the county, extending from the sea on the east, to Nottinghamshire on the west; and from the river Witham, which intersects the county from east to west, to the river Humber on the north. This area extends about forty-five miles, on an average, each way; and contains nearly 1,042,560 square acres of land. The soils are much varied, and its geographical features marked by many inequalities. High lands, called the Wolds, occupy a long ridge of it from Spilsby to the Humber, having a rich tract of marsh land to the east, between it and the sea; another ridge of high land, called Lincoln Heath, extends up the western side of this division from Lincoln to Brigg. The greater part of the latter district has, for time immemorial, been uncultivated, and appropriated almost solely to the breeding of rabbits; but within a few years past, most of it has been inclosed, and rendered subservient to more useful and profitable cultivation. At the north-western extremity is the river island of *Axholme*, a low tract of land, formerly a morass; but, from the operations of imbanking and draining, is now a very fertile spot. The river Trent bounds
the



the eastern side of this island, whilst the rivers Idle, Don, and Torn, environ the southern and western sides. The property of this district is divided among many small proprietors.

In the preceding tables is specified the number of hundreds, or wapentakes, which is included within Lindsey division; and it has been already stated, that the Bertie family derive the title of Marquis from the name of this district.

LINCOLN,

An ancient City, and a place of considerable note in the ecclesiastical and military annals of England, is singularly situated on the top and side of a high hill, which slopes with a deep descent to the south, where the river Witham runs at its base. A large part of the city or rather suburbs, extends, in a long street, from the foot of the hill to the south. On the northern side of it, without the walls, is another suburb, called *Newport*, supposed to have been an outwork of the Roman station. Camden, and some other antiquaries, state, that this place was occupied as a station, or strong hold, by the Britons, anterior to the Roman colonization of the island; and that it then bore the name of "*Lindcoit*, from the woods, (for which some copies have, corruptly, *Lintcoit*).” By Ptolomy and Antoninus, the name of the place is written *Lindum*; and from having the privilege of a colony, was called *Lindum-colonia**. Bede appears to have identified the spot, by the names of *Lindecollinum* and *Lindecollina*; and in the Saxon annals it is called *Lindocollyne* and *Lindeyllan-*

* “Towns of this class were occupied by Romans, and mostly by legionary soldiers, who received portions of land in the neighbourhood, as a reward for their services, and as an encouragement to be vigilant in suppressing any attempts of the natives to recover their liberty. Their constitution, their courts of justice, and all their offices, were copied from Rome; and the inhabitants were Roman citizens, and governed by Roman laws.”—*Mæpherson's Annals of Commerce*, Vol. I. p. 197.

Lindelyllan-ceaster. When the Normans took possession of Britain, they gave new names, new laws, and new arrangements, to all the cities and baronies; and this place was denominated, according to some writers, *Nichol*; but Mr. Gough doubts it, and says, "May one suggest a suspicion, that *Nichol* is owing to some misreading of *Incol*, or *Lincol*, or to the imperfect pronunciation of the Normans, as the French have disguised many proper names in later times."

Whatever may have been the character of this station, previous to its possession by the Romans, we cannot commence any thing like true history before that event; and even then we discover but little to excite interest, or gratify curiosity. As a military station, occupied by a colony of Romans, it must have been a place of some extent and consequence. This is manifested, by the vestiges that remain, and by the various discoveries that have been made at different periods. The form of the fortified station was that of a parallelogram, divided into four equal parts, by two streets, which crossed it at right angles. At the extremities of these were four fortified gates, nearly facing the cardinal points. The whole was encompassed by an embattled wall, which, on three sides, was flanked by a deep ditch, but on the southern side the steepness of the hill rendered a foss unnecessary. The area thus inclosed was about 1300 feet in length, by 1200 feet in breadth, and is estimated to have contained thirty-eight acres. The walls have been levelled to the ground, and the gates, except that to the north, have been for many years demolished. The latter, called *Newport-Gate*, is described by Dr. Stukeley, as "the noblest remnant of this sort in Britain, as far as I know;" and he expresses much surprise, that it had not "been taken notice of" before his time. The great, or central gateway, has a semicircular arch, of sixteen feet in diameter, which is formed with twenty-six large stones, apparently without mortar. The height is twenty-two feet and a half, of which eleven are buried beneath the ground. On each side of the arch are seven courses of horizontal stones, called springers, some of which

which are from six to seven feet in length. On each side of the great arch are two small lateral door ways, or posterns, both of which are now closed up. The diameter of each was seven feet and a half, by fifteen feet in height. In the great arch there appears to have been no key stone. A mass of the old *Roman wall* is still to be seen eastward of this gate; and to the west is another large mass, called the *Mint-wall*, which ran parallel with the town wall, and is described by Dr. Stukeley, as consisting of "a layer of squared stones, with three layers of brick, each one foot high, then three of stone for the same height, then three of brick, and twelve of stone, and then brick and stone to the top." It was about sixteen feet high, and forty feet long, and had scaffold-holes, and marks of arches. Mr. Gough thinks this was part of a Roman granary. Southward of the station above described, were other Roman works, which extended from the brow to the bottom of the hill. As the colony increased, this was necessary; and the southern side of the hill would be found more pleasant and temperate in winter than the summit. Besides, the river in the bottom would attract the inhabitants, when they felt themselves protected by a commanding and powerful garrison*. It appears that a fortified wall, with towers at the corners, continued from the top to the bottom of the hill, where

* The following are the *ROMAN ROADS* branching off from, and *STATIONS* connected with, *Lindum-colonia*. The *Ermine Street*, sometimes called *High Street* and *Old Street*, left the station on the north, and continued, nearly in a straight line, to the river Humber, on the southern bank of which were Roman settlements, or villas, at *Ad-Abum*, *Winteringham*, and *Horkstow*. About five miles north of *Lincoln*, another road, or military way, branched off from the former, at nearly right angles, and passed westerly, by *Scampton*, *Stow*, and *Marten*, where it forded the *Trent*, and near which was *Segelocum*. On the east of *Lindum*, the road called the *Foss-Way*, branched off towards the sea coast. The same road entered the city, on the southern side, and in a south-westerly direction communicated with *Crocolana*, probably at or near *Bruff*, in *Nottinghamshire*. The *Ermine Street* joined the last road near the southern border of the station, and communicated with the station of *Causennis*, supposed to be at *An-caster*.

where it turned at right angles by the side of the river. These fortifications underwent several alterations and additions, during the various civil wars to which the place was subjected. Hence it is very difficult, if not wholly impossible, to define what is really of Roman origin, or of Saxon or Norman workmanship. It is equally perplexing to ascertain the time of establishing the first colony here, forming the station, building the walls, or extending the city. The Rev. Mr. Sympson, one of the vicars choral, has offered some conjectures on those subjects; and as they serve to illustrate a few points respecting the Roman city, I shall avail myself of some passages from his writings. In taking down the Roman wall, several coins have been found, belonging to the following Emperors—Fl. Vespasian, Nero, Carausius, Julian, &c. “From considering them, and the situation in which they were found, I conjecture that this wall was either built by Carausius, or built or repaired after the time of Julian. When Carausius assumed the purple, and bade defiance to the authority and power of Maximian Hercules, who was so exceedingly enraged against him, that he had endeavoured to assassinate him, we may reasonably suppose, that so vigilant and consummate a general would fortify himself in the securest manner; and this colony being of the greatest importance to him, from its situation near to the banks of that part of the Witham which continued the communication between the Carsdyke and another artificial canal called the Fosdyke to the Trent, for the convenience of carrying corn, and other commodities, from the Icenæ, &c. for the use of the northern prætentures; it is not improbable, that he built the walls and gates of the old city. This was about the latter end of the third century.” From the various coins of Carausius found here, at different times, Mr. Sympson supposes, that Emperor resided here for some time. Among these was one of Dioclesian, with the reverse “PAX AVGGG,” which was struck in honour of the peace made by Carausius and Dioclesian, and Maximian. A *rotive tablet*, with the following inscription, has been found among the ruins of the wall:—

M. LA

M. LA ETHI

F MAX CT

M I

Mr. Sympson reads it as follows; "Marcus Laelius AETHI Filius MAXIMO, CT (et) Maximo Iovi, and I suppose it dedicated to the Emperor Maximus."

In 1739, a discovery was made of three stone coffins at the south-west corner of the close, near the chequer gate. Beneath these was a *tessellated pavement*, and under that a *roman hypocaust*. "On the floor of strong cement, composed of lime, ashes, and brick-dust, commonly called terrace mortar, stood four rows of pillars, two feet high, made of brick, eleven in a row, in all forty-four, besides two half pillars. The round pillars being composed of ten courses of semicircular bricks, laid by pairs, the joint of every course crossing that of the former at right angles, with so much mortar betwixt the two semicircles, rather form an oval, making the pillars look at first sight as if they were wreathed; the square pillars are composed of thirteen courses of bricks, eight inches square, thinner than those of the red ones. The floor of the sudatory resting on these pillars, is composed of large bricks, twenty-one by twenty-three inches, which lie over the square bricks on the pillars, the four corners of each reaching to the centres of the adjoining pillars. On this course of brick is a covering of cement, six inches thick, inlaid with a pavement, composed of white tessellæ. The walls of this room were plaistered, and the plaister painted red, blue, and other colours, but no figures discernible in either painting or pavement. This pavement, which is on a level with the testudo of the hypocaust, is about thirteen feet below the present surface of the ground: so deep is old Lindum buried in its ruins*."

In 1782 another similar discovery was made near the King's Arms. This appears to have been also a *Sudatory*. On a floor, composed of two courses of bricks, and two layers of terrace

* Camden's Britannia, by Gough, Vol. II. p. 257.

race mortar, stood a number of arches four feet high, their crown eight inches and a half thick, supported by pillars of bricks sixteen inches by twelve, which, as well as the arches, were covered over with two coats of mortar; and supported a floor composed of terrace and bricks, irregularly intermixed.—The intervals between the pillars were two feet three inches, two feet five inches, and two feet seven inches; several of the pillars were gone. To the north, beyond two rows of these pillars, whose floors rise one inch and a half from north to south, were passages, at the end of which the arches began again; but the discovery was pursued no further that way: for the external wall, which is six feet thick, of brick and stone intermixed, extends northward beyond the width of one arch; but how much further cannot be traced, the arches being broken in and filled with rubbish. Where the second set of arches commences was found a hole, that goes sloping up into the outer wall, beginning at the crown of the arches, and seems to have communicated with some part above. By the joints in the work it is conjectured, that the place with pillars, and the one with passages had been built at different times. On the south was an entrance, whose floor falls five inches, and is continued beyond the jamb. The surface of the floor is thirteen feet six inches beneath the pavement of the street, and seventeen feet five inches below the garden in which it is situated. Numbers of fragments of urns, pateræ, and other earthen vessels, but none very ornamental, were found amongst the rubbish; also earthen bottles terminating in a point, without any orifice. The external walls were built of stone intermixed with brick. The ruins of this hypocaust still exist, and are accessible at all times to the curious traveller.

In a communication made to the Society of Antiquaries, by John Pownall, Esq. published in the Tenth Volume of the *Archæologia*, is a description of an ancient place of Sepulture, discovered in an open field, half a mile due east of the east-gate of the ancient Lindum. Mr. P. says, there was found in 1790, in digging about three or four feet below the surface, a very curious
sepulchral

sepulchral monument, evidently *Roman*, and of some person above the rank of the lower order; but as the urn, which the sarcophagus inclosed, contained nothing but sand, ashes, and burnt bones, the æra of interment could not be ascertained. The *sarcophagus* consisted of a large round stone trough, of rude workmanship, with a cover of the same; both the stone and its cover had originally been square, but the ravages of time had so worn off the angles, as to give it the appearance of rotundity. Another stone of the same kind was found near it, of a quadrangular shape, evidently used for the same purpose, but without a lid or urn.

This, with many rare fragments of antiquity, were preserved by the Rev. Dr. Gordon, the Precentor of the Cathedral; who, in a letter to Mr. Pownall, dated March 2, 1791, gives an account of several *earthen and glass urns*, which were discovered in the same field, some of which were of singular shape. He also describes a room, twenty feet by sixteen, which was discovered in a quarry, about one hundred yards west from the other; the height could not be ascertained, but the bottom was about twelve feet from the present surface. The floor was covered with black ashes, and the walls bore evident marks of fire. Two skeletons were found lying on the floor, also a large stone trough capable of holding a man, but not of sufficient depth for the purpose of a coffin. This was probably a sarcophagus, in which, as Pliny informs us, in his *Nat. Hist. Lib. II.* that all bodies, previous to urn-burial, were accustomed to be burnt. The Doctor thinks the room might have been appropriated for the reception of bodies that were prepared for the funereal ceremonies. Suetonius in *Nerone*, and some other writers, have described similar places under the name of *Libitina*: where dead bodies were carried previous to interment.—“*Erat porro, Romæ porta Libitina per quam cadavera ad Libitinam efferebantur**.”

The same field having been broken up for the purposes of quarrying, several stone coffins of various shapes have at different times been discovered in the loose ground, which covers a substratum
of

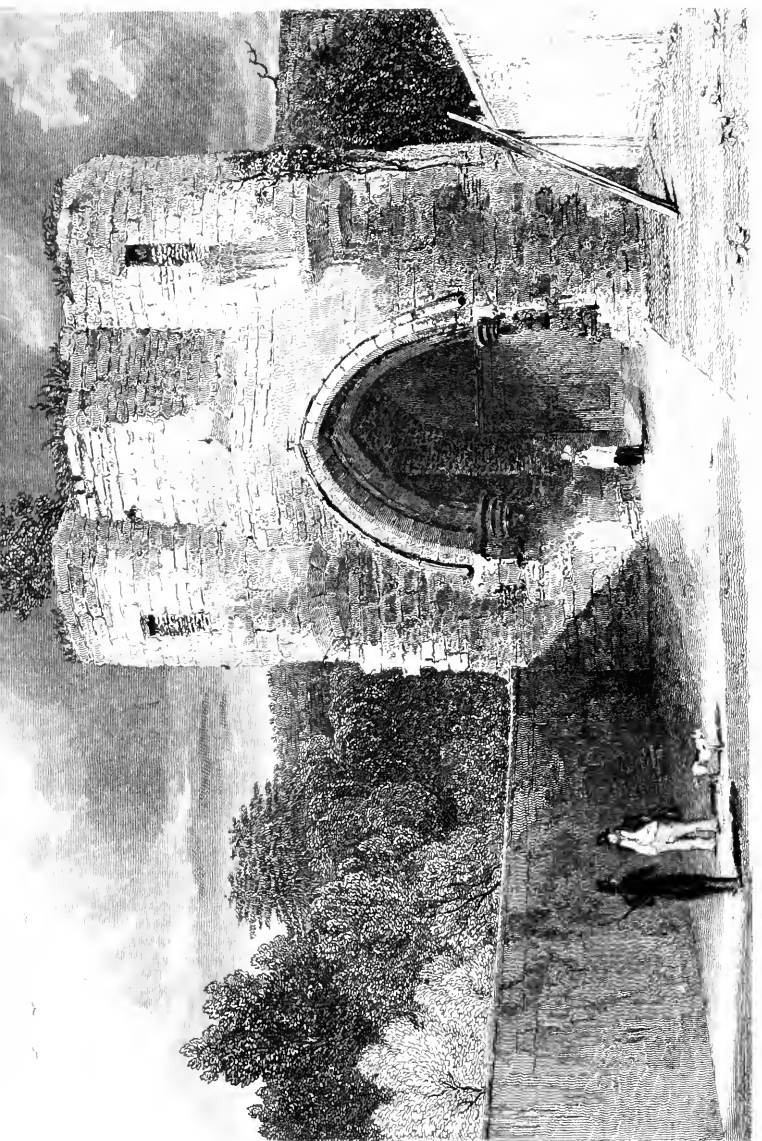
* *Lazius Comm. Reipub. Rom.*

of rock. From these and other circumstances, it is highly probable, that this was a Roman burial-ground for the great contiguous Municipium; and continued so till a different mode of burial was established by the introduction of Christianity.

Fragments of Roman pottery were found here in 1786. They consisted of fine close clay, cleared of heterogeneous sand; and so baked as to preserve an equal hardness and uniform red colour throughout. Between the Castle and Lucy tower, on the side of Fossdyke, have been found some glazed earthen pipes, two feet long, and between two and three inches diameter, fastened together by joints. These formed part of a set of conduit pipes, for the conveyance of waters to the town from a spring on the high ground near. In a field north-east of the town was discovered another supposed conduit of the same æra. About fourteen yards to the north of the Assembly Room was a large Well or cistern of very singular construction, called the *Blind Well*. It was built with neat walling; and at the top was eighteen feet diameter, narrowing towards the bottom. This has some years since been filled up.—Communicating with this, it appears, pipes were laid from a spring head, at the distance of forty-two chains. In a low ground, abounding with springs on the other side the hedge of Nettleham inclosure, are traces of a building, supposed a reservoir, whence, from under a raised bank, parallel with a balk pointing to the spring head, are pipes to another such bank, forming with it an obtuse angle. In the bank, or road, to which the first series of pipes point, are in places raised parts, which bear a strong resemblance to a Roman Rampart; and a remarkable excavation is said to have been discovered in it some years since, by the breaking in of a loaded waggon. The whole length from the mound to the second pipe is sixty-three chains and forty-six links, or nearly one thousand three hundred and ninety-seven yards. The pipes are about one foot ten inches long. They have no insertions, but are joined by an exterior ring or circular course, with an introceptive process of strong cement, like the bed in which the pipes are laid. Conut Caylus, in his *Receuil d'Antiq.*

Tom. II.

Fig. 1. The Church of St. John, 1844.





Tom. II. describes a similar kind of aqueduct, which supplied Paris with mineral water from Chaillcot, in the time of the Romans. A plan of that at Lincoln is engraved in Gough's Camden. Within the area of the Cathedral cloisters is part of a Roman *tessellated pavement*, still preserved, and secured from the weather and injury by a small building erected over it.

In 1788, in the area of Lincoln Castle, was found a Roman vessel, nearly entire, three feet and a half below what appears to be the natural rock, and fourteen beneath the present surface. It was of black pottery, and one side of it was corroded. Another fragment of a Roman vessel, found in the rubbish of a Roman building within the castle, had been apparently gilt; and was, according to Governor Pownall, who furnished the account, of a different kind of clay to any Roman earthenware he had ever seen.

From these, and other considerations, it is not improbable, that the Romans or Romanized Britons had a fortress on the site of the present castle, before its erection by the Norman Conqueror.

Sir Henry C. Englefield, in a communication to the Antiquarian Society, describes an arch opening into the ditch, in a tower still remaining amid the ruins, which had escaped the notice of Mr. King, in his account of this structure. The tower fronts the west, having in the lower part a large semicircular arch, which is sixteen feet wide in the clear, turned with forty-five stones, each of which is two feet deep. Above, to the right hand is a small doorway, now walled up, having a semicircular arch, crossed by a transom stone in the Saxon style. This is six feet six inches high, by two feet four inches and a half wide. It led from the lower to the higher floor. To the left are two loop holes, covered with single stones, cut circular at top. It appears, that nearly eight feet of the original building is now buried beneath the surface. Up a hollow part in the rock went a flight of steps, which has been destroyed. The wall of the outer arch is five feet thick, but the

superstructure only four; having in the centre, a portcullis groove. Nearly the whole of this wall is composed of the Lincoln stone, of which a reddish and harder stratum has been selected for turning the arches both of the gateway and door above, for covering the beam holes, and for closing the loops. Its situation is precisely in the line of the Roman wall, and not far from the middle of the west side of it; and, as near as the eye can judge, is directly opposite to the site of the eastern Roman gate, which was destroyed some years since. The learned Baronet then observes, "The dimensions of the arch, its materials, its being so far below the present surface of the earth, and its situation in the line of the Roman wall, and opposite the east gate, would at once determine me to pronounce it the old gate of the Lindum of the Romans; did not some remarkable differences in this, from the north and south gates still existing, seem to discountenance the supposition. They have an impost, this has none. They are built of vast stones, this of rather small ones, (though the three thin stones on each haunch of the Newport Roman arch are very like those, which turn this arch) yet as the present castle, which was built by William the Conqueror, is evidently of more modern time than the tower, and the tower itself appears to have been of a date posterior to the arch in question, as appears by the different thickness of the walls, &c. I cannot help still thinking, that the Normans and Saxons both found this great arch built to their hands, and so, instead of destroying turned it into a postern, when they dug out the ditch and built a flight of steps to it. I must end by remarking, that the diameter of this arch is much greater than any other gate now about the city, the Newport having been only fifteen feet, and the castle great gate thirteen feet ten inches in the clear *."

Soon after the Romans left the island, Lincoln, in common with other places of consequence, shared in the general calamities, which ensued, by the incursions of the Picts, Saxons, and Danes.

At

* Archæologia, Vol. VI. page 379.

At what period the Saxons possessed themselves of this city does not appear in history. But so early as the year 516, or according to Mathew of Westminster, 518, Arthur having been crowned King of Britain, proceeded immediately with his forces against the Saxons, who had been ravaging the country under their leader, Colgern; who, on the approach of the British Prince, fled, and passed over into Germany, where having obtained fresh supplies of troops, and aided by Cerdic, the founder of the West Saxon kingdom, he again advanced, and carried on a depredatory warfare. Arthur obtaining advantages against the combined army pursued it towards Lincoln, which city was then besieged by the troops of Cerdic; who, on the arrival of the Britons, were compelled to retreat from before it.

Soon after this, from the successes which the invaders continually met with, Lincoln was probably in the possession of the Saxons. In those struggles it was that the old town was nearly destroyed, and that, as Leland thinks, "new Lincoln was made out of a piece of old Lincoln." The Saxons, for their better security, fortified the southern part of the hill with ditches and ramparts, walled the town, and erected gates.

A. D. 940, but according to the Saxon chronicle, A. D. 957, Edmund pursued the Danes into the north of England, defeated them, and recovered many towns; among which are mentioned Lincoln, Leicester, Stafford, Nottingham, and Derby; obliging them at the same time to swear allegiance to him, and to receive Christian baptism. Fresh supplies of troops coming over under Sweyne, the Danes over-ran the north, committed great devastations, and laid on the people most insupportable taxes. Sweyne dying at Gainsborough, was succeeded by Canute; who, A. D. 1016, laid waste the counties of Buckingham, Bedford, Huntingdon, Nottingham, Lincoln, and York. In this career, however, he was arrested by the valiant Edmund Ironside; but from a conspiracy in his army that prince was obliged to disband it, and seek refuge for himself under the protection of Ucltred his brother-in-law, Earl of Northumberland; from whom he was soon obliged to

retire to London, and his father dying, soon after his arrival in that city he was crowned king. The issue of the further struggles between him and Canute, it is well known, terminated in the division of the kingdom between them.

Lincoln, at the time of the Norman conquest, appears to have been one of the richest and most populous cities in England; and of great importance as an emporium of trade and commerce. The Domesday Survey mentions 1070 mansions, 900 Burgesses, and 12 Lagemen, having sac and soke. On the accession of the Conqueror to the throne, he appears to have felt that dread and insecurity, which ever attend usurped dominion; and having no hold upon his new subjects, but what principally arose from fear, he endeavoured by every precaution to prevent insurrection and revolt. Malcolm, King of Scotland, refusing in 1067, to give up Edgar, who had fled to him for protection, excited alarm in the bosom of the Conqueror; and numbers of the English flying to that country from the yoke of tyranny, tended to increase his suspicions. Convinced of the disaffection of many, and doubtful of more among his people, he ordered four strong castles to be built; one at Hastings, another at Lincoln, a third at Nottingham, and a fourth at York. In consequence of this a large and strong castle was erected A. D. 1066, on the ridge of the hill on which this city was situated. The ostensible design of it was, as a fortress to defend the city; but the more immediate and real object was to overawe and keep in subjection the inhabitants, whose numbers, wealth, and partialities the Conqueror viewed with a jealous eye. The building was 644 yards in circumference, and occupied the space on which had stood 166 houses. These are said to have been taken down to furnish room for its erection, and 74 more were at the same time destroyed without the limits, that the whole might be insulated, or stand alone.

In the reign of Henry the First a navigable canal was made, or enlarged, from the river Witham at Lincoln to the Trent near Torksey; and was probably the first canal of the sort ever made in England. This was about seven miles in length, and is at present

Malcolm's Scottish Fort 125

Lincoln

present called the Foss-Dyke. By this a communication was formed with the river Trent, and down that by the Humber to the sea. Thus being accessible for foreign vessels, and having also the advantage of an inland navigation, the city became thriving, populous, and wealthy. And, according to Alexander Necham, a poet of the age, "Lincoln was now stored with good things, and became the support of the neighbouring country." At this period it is related by some historians that it possessed a very large share of the import and export trade of the kingdom.

A. D. 1140, The Empress Maud coming over to England, to assert her title to the crown, and oppose the pretensions of King Stephen, she took up her abode at Lincoln, strongly fortified it, and amply stored it with provisions. This, she thought, was a place of safety, and conveniently situated for keeping up a communication with those persons who were friendly to her cause. Stephen hearing of it, marched quickly thither, closely besieged the city and took it. But the Empress had, during the siege, found means to escape. The King having possessed himself of the city, appeased the tumults of the neighbourhood, and finding the country quiet, he left a garrison, and proceeded to his army acting in other parts of the kingdom.

Shortly after this, in the same year, Ralf de Gernons, Earl of Chester, and William de Roumara, his half-brother, who had claimed the earldom of Lincoln, in right of his mother Lucia, sister to Edwin and Morcar; possessed themselves of the castle by surprise, and intended with their countesses and friends, to keep their Christmas there. The citizens espousing the king's cause, sent private intelligence to him, that the Earls were in an unprovided state and apprehensive of no danger; that it would be easy to secure them, and offered to assist in the enterprize. Upon this advice Stephen came by rapid marches from London, and invested the place on Christmas-day. The citizens rising in his behalf, seized and secured seventeen men at arms. The Earls knowing that the place could not hold out long, without the siege was raised, and the younger brother's liberty being necessary

for that purpose, Ralf broke through the enemies' guards in the night, reached Chester, levied his vassals, obtained assistance from the Welsh, and gained over to his cause his father-in-law, Robert, earl of Gloucester; and these joining their forces marched towards Stephen, who had now laid before the city six weeks. On their approach he prepared to give them battle; but an unlucky omen, and a worse disaster, happened that day to the king: the tapers he offered according to custom broke, and the pix, with the consecrated water in it, which hung over the altar at mass, augured worse. But what really led to the fate of the day was, the defection of Alan, earl of Richmond, who, refusing to fight, marched off before the battle began. Undismayed, and persisting in his resolution, Stephen dismounted, put himself at the head of his infantry, while the earl of Gloucester placed his troops in such a position, that there could be no retreat. Both armies fought desperately, but Stephen's cavalry being routed, he was surrounded by the enemy's horse; and though he behaved with the utmost intrepidity, his main body was soon broken, and himself taken by the earl of Gloucester; by whom he was conducted prisoner to the castle of Bristol. Stephen, was exchanged for Robert, earl of Gloucester, who had been taken by William of Ypres, and being released out of prison, and restored to the throne by capitulation, his affairs assumed a more pleasing aspect. Oxford and many other places yielded, Ralf, earl of Chester, sided with him, and delivered up his castles of Coventry and Lincoln*; and here, A. D. 1044, he passed his Christmas. The deed of pacification drawn up between the Empress and Stephen, by which Prince Henry his son was to succeed to the crown; among other articles of agreement stipulates, That the castle of Lincoln should be put into the hands of Jordan de Bussey,

* Simon of Durlam testifies that Stephen entered Lincoln in triumph, having on his royal robes and wearing his crown, which was as new a species of pomp, as it was surprising and disgusting to the people.

Lincoln

sey, as governor; who, on taking possession, was sworn to deliver it to Prince Henry, or whom he might appoint, on the death of Stephen*.

Lincoln having been made notorious in the contest between the Empress and that king, obtained a degree of consequence in the estimation of future monarchs. After Henry the Second had been crowned in London, Speed says, he was afterwards, in the year 1155, crowned at Lincoln. Rapin describes the event as having taken place at Wickford, an adjacent village, in A. D. 1158. But the date of Speed is likely to be right, as it is highly probable, that Henry adopted this measure among others, to secure the fidelity of his subjects previous to his departure for Flanders. Carte, however, says, that "it was probably on his return from the north, where he had been to meet Malcolm, King of Scotland, and at the festival either of Easter or Whitsuntide, that Henry wore his crown at Lincoln; not in the city, but in the suburbs, called Wickford, out of a prudent compliance with the superstitious notions of the people, who imagined that a king's wearing it within the walls was always the forerunner of some disaster."

In the time of Richard the First, Gerard de Camville possessed the castle, and had the government of the city and county granted him; but was dispossessed of both in the fifth year of that king's reign.

During the contentions between King John and his refractory barons, who were assisted by Lewis, Dauphin of France, this city was taken by Gilbert de Gaunt, who had been made by the usurper, earl of Lincoln; but the castle still held out for the king†. John having raised a powerful army, marched in the autumn of the year 1216 to relieve it. Taking the nearest way from Norfolk across the washes, he left in that dangerous pass, all his carriages, treasure, portable chapel, regalia, and other baggage.

Q q 4

gage.

* Matth. Paris Hist.

† It was kept and defended by a noble Lady of the name of Nickole;

gage. This loss so affected him, that it hastened his death. Gilbert however had, in consequence of the king's approach, retreated, but hearing of his death, he reinvested the place, took it, and again besieged the castle. The Pope, taking the part of the young King Henry, by his Legate, solemnly execrated Gilbert and his abettors; and granted indulgences to all persons who would take up arms against them for the recovery of the castle. The earl of Pembroke, then Regent, soon raised a powerful army, and encamped at Stow, eight miles off. The numbers appeared greater than they were, by a well managed *ruse de guerre*. The noblemen and bannerets each of them had two ensigns, the one borne by themselves, or squires, and the other advanced among the carriages. This formidable appearance intimidated the confederate army, and prevented their coming to meet the English. In the mean time, Foulk de Brent, a powerful baron in the King's interest, threw himself, with a reinforcement, into the castle, and sallying out on the besiegers, attacked them in the rear, while the troops, with the Earl of Pembroke at their head, assailed them in front.

The French, under the Count of Perch with their abettors, and Gilbert's forces, made a resolute resistance to the sally, till the King's forces coming up on the other side, they were struck with dismay. They had previously shut the barriers, and endeavoured by every means to keep the Earl of Pembroke's forces from entering the city; but they fell upon the confederates with such fury, that almost all were either slain or taken prisoners. The Count of Perch retired into the church yard of the cathedral, where, refusing to submit to an Englishman, he was killed by a lance piercing the brain through his helmet. A few of the barons escaped; but the chief of them were taken, with about 400 knights, besides esquires; and of the inferior classes an immense number: many endeavouring to escape in boats down the Witham, were drowned; and others, flying in all directions, were put to death by the country people.

The riches of the confederate camp and city became spoils to the

the King's army; hence the discomfiture was reproachfully termed *Lewis-fair*. Each royalist wore a white cross on his breast, on account of the battle being fought in the Whitsun week. It began at two o'clock, and ended at nine, "So expeditious," says Matthew Paris, "were the merchants in transacting the business at this fair." This battle, fought on the 4th of June, A. D. 1218, was the ruin of the Dauphin's cause in England, as well as that of the barons; and at the same time evinced the folly of the latter in accepting the aid of a French power to enable them to oppose their legal sovereign. Speed says, that in the fiftieth of Henry the Third, A. D. 1266, the city of Lincoln was sacked.

The castle and bail of Lincoln appear to have continued in the crown till the time of Edward the First, when Henry de Lacy died seized of them, and they passed, with other parts of his inheritance, to the Earl of Lincoln, and so became annexed to the duchy of Lancaster. John of Gaunt, Duke of that palatinate, greatly improved the castle, and made it his summer residence; having, according to a tradition of the place, built himself a winter palace below the hill, in the southern suburbs.

In the time of King Edward the First, A. D. 1301, a parliament was held here, to consult about an answer to the Pope's letters, in which he had prohibited the King from waging war against the Scots, who had previously resigned their kingdom to that monarch. In this the King and Nobles resolved, that, as the King's quarrel with the Scots was founded upon his just title to the crown of Scotland, no foreign power had a right to interfere; and a spirited remonstrance to that effect was transmitted to Rome: upon which the Pope relinquishing his prohibitory plan, the war was continued. Four years after this, the King kept his court here a whole winter, and held another parliament, in which he confirmed Magna Charta*, and obtained a subsidy.

A parliament

* A fine and perfect copy of this important national deed, is still preserved among the archives of the cathedral. This has been carefully copied, under the direction of Mr. William Illingworth, and is now engraving for the "Parliamentary Reports on the Public Records of Great Britain."

A parliament was assembled at Lincoln, by Edward the Second, to consider of the best means to be adopted for opposing the outrages of the Scots; and another was also holden at this place in the first year of the succeeding reign.

The contracted spirit of corporate monopoly so far prevailed here, against the acts of parliament passed in the years 1335 and 1337, and the King's resolutions to foster the woollen manufactures, that the weavers of Lincoln obtained a grant from Edward the Third, A. D. 1348, of what they considered and called their *liberties*. By this charter they were invested with the power of depriving any weaver not of their guild, of the privilege of working at his trade within twelve leagues of the city. This, and some other similar monopolies, were abolished in the year 1351, by an act called the *Statute of Cloths*. In the twenty-sixth year of this reign, A. D. 1352, the staple of wool was removed from Flanders to England; and the staple towns appointed on that occasion, were Westminster, Chichester, Canterbury, Bristol, Hull, and Lincoln. The latter was also made a staple for leather, lead, and various other articles. This proved highly beneficial to the place, for it thereby recovered from the losses it had sustained by military ravages, and was soon in a very flourishing condition. John of Gaunt being a widower, while resident at Lincoln, married, A. D. 1396, the Lady Catharine Swinford, then a widow. This apparently unequal match excited much surprise. But Sir John Hayward observes, that he "therein obeyed the remorse of a Christian conscience, without respect to his own unequal greatness; for having had several children by her in his former wife's time, he made her and them the only sufficient amends which the laws of God and man require." And further, in a parliament held the year following, the Duke procured an act to legitimate his children, and give them the surname of *Beaufort*.

Richard the Second visited Lincoln in the year 1386, and granted to the mayor (John Sutton), and his successors, the privilege of having a sword carried before them in their processions.

Henry

Henry the Sixth came here in the year 1446, and then held his court in the episcopal palace. *Lincoln*

A rebellion breaking out in the time of Edward the Fourth, Sir Robert Wells, son of Lord Wells, out of revenge for the death of his father, whom Edward, after promising safety, had caused to be beheaded, took up arms, and raised a great commotion in the county. Collecting together about 30,000 men at Lincoln, he marched out, and fell upon the King's troops in the vicinity of Stamford, near which place a most sanguinary battle ensued, when Sir Robert, with Sir Thomas Deland being taken, the Lincoln men were so terrified, that casting off their coats, lest they should be impeded in their flight, ran away. This conflict is still called "*The Battle of Lose-Coat-Field.*" On this occasion it is said 10,000 were killed, and Sir Robert Wells, with many other persons of distinction, were put to death by the King's command. After the battle of Bosworth Field, King Henry the Seventh was at Lincoln, and here it was he first heard of the escape of the Lord Lovell, who had raised an army against him. After his coronation in the camp, he came to this city, where he spent three days in offering up public prayers and thanksgivings, and in making splendid processions, for the signal victory he had obtained over Richard the Third. In the year 1533, Cromwell, the minister of King Henry the Eighth, obtained an act of Parliament to enforce the reading of the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, in English. This was not agreeable to the common people, who, instigated by the monks, rose in various parts of the kingdom. A commotion was made by the men of Lincoln and Lincolnshire, under a leader of the feigned name of *Captain Cobler*. They amounted to nearly 20,000 men, against whom the King prepared to march in person, charging several counties to furnish a certain number of soldiers, properly equipped, to meet him at Ampthill. This being known to the insurgents, they sent to his Majesty a list of articles, or items of their grievances; and an humble request, that he would pardon their having taken up arms against him.

When

When the King had perused it, he pacified them by a courteous speech; and on laying down their arms, they received his most gracious pardon.

On the commencement of the civil war between Charles the First and his parliament*, the King came to Lincoln, where he received, by Charles Dailson, recorder of the city, the assurance of support from the corporation and principal inhabitants; and having convened the nobility, knights, gentry, and freeholders of the county, his Majesty addressed them in an able and appropriate speech: justifying his conduct in the measures he had taken; exhorting them to join cordially with him in defence of their liberty and religion, and warning them against the consequences of the spirit of rebellion which had gone forth. This speech, delivered July 15, A. D. 1642, is published in the volume of *Reliquæ Sacra*, or Works of King Charles the First. In the month of July, the following year, a plot was discovered to deliver up the city, then in the hands of the parliamentary forces, to the King. For co-operating in this design, 2000 of the Queen's troops were sent from Newark before the walls of Lincoln, expecting, according to agreement, they should be admitted by Serjeant Major Purefoy, and his brother Captain Purefoy, who had, the day before, received about sixty cavaliers in disguise. And though an intimation of the plot was given to the garrison by the Mayor of Hull, on which the two Purefoys were seized, yet the cavaliers sallied into the town, and, before they could be suppressed, did considerable execution. Soon after

* It is a singular circumstance, that although a very particular account has been given, by several authors, of the unhappy differences which subsisted between the people of England and their ill-fated monarch, at various other cities and towns, yet no mention is made of any events relative to that period at Lincoln, either in Camden, the *Magna Britannia*, or even in Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion*. Mr. Gough, in his additions to Camden, edition 1789, merely says, "The lower town having been taken by the parliament's forces, under the Earl of Manchester, the castle was stormed, May, 1644."

Lincoln

after this, Lincoln was in possession of the royalists; for, May 3d, A. D. 1644, the Earl of Manchester sat down with an army before the city, and, after meeting some little resistance, took the lower part of it, the besieged retreating into the Minster and Castle. These he intended to storm on the night of the 4th, had not a violent rain prevented him, by making the Castle Hill too slippery for the purpose. On the following day, receiving intelligence that Colonel Goring, with 5 or 6000 horse, was coming to relieve the city, Manchester resolved to carry the castle by storm that afternoon. But again being informed that they could not come up during the night, he deferred the attack till the next morning. In the mean time, Cromwell was detached, with 2000 horse, to cause a diversion of their rout. The infantry were ordered to lie among their works, that they might be ready when a signal for onset should be given. This was about two o'clock in the morning, when they instantly commenced a most furious attack. In the space of a quarter of an hour they got up to the works, though the King's troops made a gallant resistance, and soon were enabled to fix their scaling ladders. The garrison, at this time, desisted from firing, and threw down large stones on the assailants, which did much more execution than the shot; but the besiegers getting into the castle, slew about fifty; and the rest, intimidated, demanded quarter, which was immediately granted. Among the prisoners were Sir Francis Fane, the governor, Colonels Middlemore and Baudes, two Lieutenant Colonels, two Majors, twenty Captains, and about seven hundred private soldiers. One hundred horse, and eight pieces of Ordnance were also taken. Of Manchester's party, eight were killed, in which number were Captain Ogleby and Lieutenant Saunders; and about forty were wounded.

The Diocess of Lincoln, after the See was removed from Sidenacester, soon acquired a vast accumulation of territorial jurisdiction and wealth. It took in so many counties, that it was described as ready to sink under the incumbent weight of its own greatness; and though Henry the Second took out of it the diocess

diocese of Ely, and King Henry the Eighth those of Peterborough and Oxford, it is still considered the largest in England.

As the jurisdiction was great, so, prior to the reformation, the revenues were proportionably abundant. Except the two archbishoprics, and those termed the *principality* bishoprics, viz. Winchester, Durham, and Ely, no see in the kingdom was so well endowed, which was the reason that there is no record, till the time of Elizabeth, of any Bishop of this see having been translated to another, except Winchester; though since that time, Willis observes, "no less than ten out of seventeen have left this for more valuable ones." Nor was it less remarkable for the number of episcopal palaces within the diocese. Before 1547 it had eight. In this county, Lincoln, Sleaford, and Nettleham; in Rutlandshire, Ledington; in Huntingdonshire, Buckden, the usual residence of the Bishops; in Buckinghamshire, Woburn, and Finghurst; in Oxfordshire, Banbury Castle; two more at Newark, in the county of Nottingham; and Lincoln Place, Chancery Lane, London. All these, except that at Lincoln, with about thirty manors, were given up, in the first year of Edward the Sixth, by Holbech, the first married bishop; who, for the purpose of gratifying the wishes of some courtiers, and raising his own family, exchanged almost every species of landed property annexed to the see for impropriations: so that now scarcely four manors remain of the ancient demesnes. The present revenues, therefore, principally arise from rectorial property or tythes. By the death of the Duke of Somerset, during the time of Holbech, the palace of Buckden reverted to the see; and in the time of Queen Mary, the estates were restored to Bishop White; but on his deprivation, A. D. 1559, they were again alienated by Queen Elizabeth. Madox, in his *Baronia Anglia*, says, "that the bishopric of Lincoln consisted of five knights' fees," which, if the knight's fee is fixed, according to Mr. Maseres, at 680 acres, will make its possession 3400 acres.

Introductory to an account of the Cathedral, and as tending to illustrate

illustrate many points of local history, I shall next relate a few particulars respecting the lives or actions of the

BISHOPS OF LINCOLN.—The account of these will be given in a chronological order, from the period of fixing the see here to the present time; and to each will be annexed the eras of their respective consecrations and deaths.

ST. REMIGIUS DE FESCAMP, who had been Bishop of Dorchester about eighteen years, became, on the removal of the see in 1088, (or as stated in the Lincoln MS.* 1086,) Bishop of Lincoln. He founded the cathedral, which he brought to such a state of forwardness in four years, as to be ready for consecration, at which all the bishops of England were summoned to attend: but, two days before the intended solemnity, he died, May 6, 1092; and was buried on the north side of the choir of his cathedral, where a monument was erected to his memory.

ROBERT BLOET, or **BLOET**, who had been chaplain to William the Conqueror, and was now chancellor to William Rufus, was consecrated in 1092. He finished the cathedral, dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and greatly enriched it. Having presided thirty years, he died January 10, 1123, at Woodstock, (while on horseback attending the king), and was buried in the north transept of his cathedral, where a monument was raised to his memory. In his time the bishopric of Ely was taken out, and made independent of that, of Lincoln.

ALEXANDER DE BLOIS, Archdeacon of Salisbury, and Chief Justice of England, was consecrated July 22, 1123, through the interest of his uncle Roger, the celebrated Bishop of Salisbury. Having rebuilt the cathedral, which had been, in 1124, destroyed by fire, he arched it over with stone, to prevent a similar accident; and greatly increased the size and augmented the ornaments of it, so as to render it the most magnificent sacred edifice in his time. His extensive generosity obtained for him the name of *Alexander the Benevolent*. He died July 20, 1147, and was buried near the two former Bishops. This prelate, and his ambitious uncle of Salisbury,

* Willis's Survey of Cathedrals, Vol. II. p. 542.

Salisbury, were much devoted to ecclesiastical architecture; and are said to have erected, or greatly enlarged, several magnificent buildings*.

ROBERT DE CHISNEY, called also CHESNETO, and QUERCETO, who had been Archdeacon of Leicester, succeeded to the see of Lincoln in 1147. He built the episcopal palace, founded St. Catherine's Priory; and purchased a house in London, near the Temple, for himself and his successors. He died January 26, 1167, leaving the see much in debt through his munificence, and was buried in this cathedral.

The see having been vacant six years, GEOFFREY PLANTAGENET, natural son of King Henry the Second, was elected in 1173, and held it nine years, but never was consecrated; whence some authorities omit him in the list of bishops, and consider the see as vacant during that period. He discharged the mortgages of his predecessor; and, in 1182, resigned his pretensions to the bishopric; soon after which he was appointed *Archbishop of York*.

WALTER DE CONSTANTIS, Archdeacon of Oxford, succeeded to this see in 1183, but was the next year translated to the Archbishopric of Rouen, in Normandy.

After a vacancy of two years, HUGH, Prior of Witham, commonly described as ST. HUGH BURGUNDUS, was consecrated September 21, 1186. His piety and austere life obtained him universal esteem while living, and canonization after his death. His authority was so great, and his resolution so firm, that he ordered the tomb of Fair Rosamond to be removed from Godstow church, where it had been placed with great solemnity, by the king's command. This prelate enlarged the cathedral, by building what is now called the *New Work*. He also built that beautiful piece of architecture, the *Chapter-House*, and died November 17, 1200. The high estimation in which he was held, was evinced by two kings (John of England, and William of Scotland,) assisting to carry his body to the cathedral doors, where it was

* See *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, Vol I. in the "Account of Malmesbury abbey church."

was received by several bishops, who carried it into the choir, where it was buried, and enshrined* in silver. This being pulled down in the civil war of the 17th century, Bishop Fuller set up a plain altar tomb over the grave.

Sanderson states, that the *shrine* erected to his memory was "made of beaten gold, and was in length eight feet by four feet broad, as is now to be seen. It was taken away by virtue of a commission, in King Henry the Eighth's time; in the thirty-second year of his reign."

Gough† says, "He had a magnificent shrine of pure gold, and a silver chest, in which his reliques were translated by the kings of England and France, 5th John, behind the high altar of his cathedral. This has been succeeded by a table monument; erected by Bishop Fuller, between 1667 and 1675, with an inscription, which may be seen in Browne Willis's account of the cathedral. The monument, or shrine, commonly ascribed to him, and engraved by Dr. Stukeley, was supposed by Mr. Lethieullier to be that of Hugh, a child, crucified and canonized 40th Henry the Third." Mr. Gough here inserts Mr. L.'s account at large, in a letter to Mr. Gale, printed in *Archæologia* I. 26: and in vol. II. p. 1. Sep. Mon. p. lxxviii, &c. he gives a circumstantial account of the discovery of the coffin, skeleton, &c. of Hugh, a boy.

After a vacancy of three years, on account of a dispute between the king and canons, WILLIAM DE BLEYS, called by Leland *William de Mortibus*, precentor and prebendary of this church, was consecrated August 24, 1204. He died May 11, 1206, and was buried in the upper north transept of the cathedral‡. The see remained vacant three years more, when

HUGH WALLYS, or DE WELLES, was consecrated Dec. 21,
VOL. IX. R r 1209.

* A draught of the shrine is given in Dr. Stukeley's *Itin. Cur.*

† Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. p. 233.

‡ Mr. Gough seems to have made a mistake respecting this prelate. Having noticed the burial of Bishop de Bleys, he mentions that of *William Blesensis*,
also

1209. He rendered himself conspicuous by his adherence to the barons against the king; for which, being excommunicated by the Pope, he was forced to commute the sentence by the payment of a thousand marks. He died Feb. 8, 1234, and was interred in the cathedral.

ROBERT GROSTHEAD, or GROSSETESTE, who had been Archdeacon of Chester, Wilts, and Leicester, and Chancellor of Oxford, was consecrated May 18, 1235. He was the most celebrated scholar of his age, and also a great promoter of learning. His writings were numerous, of which several in manuscript are now extant in the libraries of the universities; some were printed, a catalogue of which may be seen in *Anglia Sacra* II. 345. Having governed this see eighteen years, with singular wisdom and piety, he died October 9, 1253, and was buried, according to Godwin, "in the highest south aisle of his cathedral, and hath a goodly tomb of marble, with an image of brass on it." Mr. Gough gives a plate of this tomb, and says, "It appears to have been an altar tomb, with a border of foliage round the table, which was supported by circular pillars at the corners, but now lies broken and disordered on the floor. So imperfect is the memorial of this great prelate, a protestant in popish times, whose superior judgment struggled hard to break the ice of reformation in the thirteenth century*."

HENRY LEXINGTON, dean of this church, was consecrated bishop May 17, 1253; died August 18, 1258, and was buried near the remains of his predecessor.

RICHARD DE GRAVESEND, also dean of this church, was consecrated Nov. 3, 1258; died December 18, 1279, and was interred

also Bishop of Lincoln, who died in 1206. This must evidently be the same as the former, for no prelate of the name of Blesensis is found in any other authority. This name may have been the latinized word according to the custom of the times.

* Pegg has published an account of this prelate, in a quarto volume, 1793, entitled "The Life of Robert Grosseteste, the celebrated Bishop of Lincoln, with an account of the Bishop's Works, and an Appendix."

terred in the south aisle of the cathedral, near the last two bishops. *Lincoln*
The inscription, in Saxon characters, is still legible.

OLIVER SUTTON, another Dean of Lincoln, was consecrated May 19, 1288 ; he died suddenly, while at prayers, November 13, 1299, and was buried in the cathedral, near Bishop Wallys.

JOHN DE ALDERBY, chancellor of this diocese, was consecrated June 12, 1300. He was a man of exemplary piety, and esteemed a saint by the common people ; who, after his death, which took place January 5, 1319, paid their devotions at his tomb and shrine, which were erected in the largest south transept of his cathedral, to which he had been a great benefactor by building. Mr. Gough says, " Both are now gone, being taken away in Leland's time, *nomine superstitionis* ; but Browne Willis shewed the Society of Antiquaries a drawing of the shrine in 1722. The three stone pillars that supported it remain, having on their tops a kind of embattled bracket projecting, perhaps to support a candlestick." Mr. G. also relates, that in making a vault a few years since, the workmen accidentally broke into the stone grave of the saint, whence a patten, and some other articles, were stolen by the mason, and George Hastings, then verger ; the latter was tried for the theft, and acquitted, but was dismissed from his situation ; and the patten was deposited in the vestry. On laying the new pavement, in 1782, the grave was again opened, and finally covered with blue slabs taken from the old pavement.

THOMAS BEAKE, or *Le Bek*, canon of this church, was elected to the see January 27, 1319, but died in a few months, before he took possession, and was buried in the upper cross aisle of the cathedral, without any monument.

HENRY BURWASH, or *Burghersh*, prebendary of York, and brother to Bartholomew Lord Burghersh, was by the interest of the latter advanced to this see, and was consecrated at Bologne, July 20, 1320. He was a strenuous opposer of Edward the Second, to whose deposition he was instrumental. In the next reign he was Chancellor of England. Accompanying the king and queen to Flanders, he died at Ghent, or Gaunt, December 1340. His body was brought to England, and interred near the east end of

his cathedral, where a monument was erected; of which Mr. Gough has given a plate*, and describes it as having "his figure in freestone, recumbent on a slab, bordered with roses and lions heads, with angels at his head, a lion and griffin at his feet. The point of his mitre is broken off; on the front of it a winged lion. He has on a rich robe, flowered with roses in quatrefoils and plain quatrefoils, and rich flowered shoes. On the north side, in five arches, ten sitting figures, in hoods and religious habits, praying, with a book on a desk between each pair; but only two have heads."

THOMAS BEAK, or *Le Bek*, prebendary of this church, a relation of the former bishop of the same name, was consecrated July 7, 1342; died Feb. 1, 1346, and was interred in the upper north transept of his cathedral.

JOHN GYNEWELL, GINDWELL, or *Synwen*, prebendary of this church, and Archdeacon of Northampton, was consecrated in 1347; died August 4, 1362, and was buried in his cathedral, to which he had been a considerable benefactor, by building the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen.

JOHN BOKINGHAM, or *Buckingham*, Archdeacon of Northampton, and Dean of Lichfield, was consecrated June 25, 1363. In 1398, the Pope, on some umbrage given, translated him to Lichfield, which was not half so valuable a see. This he disdained to accept, and retired to Canterbury, where he ended his days among the monks of that cathedral.

HENRY BEAUFORT, Dean of Wells, and half-brother to Henry the Fourth, was consecrated July 1398. In 1404, he was translated to Winchester, where he presided forty-three years. He was Chancellor of Oxford, several times Chancellor of England, and created a Cardinal by the Pope. He died April 11, 1447, and was buried in Winchester cathedral, where a stately monument was erected to his memory.

PHILIP REPINGDON, Abbot of Leicester, and Chancellor of Oxford, was consecrated March 29, 1405. He was a learned man, a great writer, and a cardinal. Preferring a life of retirement,

* Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. p. 2, pl. 35.

Lincoln

ment, he voluntarily resigned his bishopric, in May 1420, and lived privately. He died about 1423, and was buried in the south aisle of the cathedral, where a marble tomb, with a brass plate, and the following inscription, serve to perpetuate his memory:—

“Marmorea in tumba, simplex sine felle columba,
Repington natus, jacet hic Phillippus humatus.
 Flos, adamas cleri, pastor gregis ac prece veri:
 Vivat ut in cœlis quem poscat quisque fidelis*.”

RICHARD FLEMING, Canon of York, was consecrated in 1420. He founded Lincoln College, Oxford; and was so much in favour with the Pope, that he translated him to York in 1429; but this being opposed by the king and the chapter, the bishop returned to his former see. He died at his palace at Sleaford, Jan. 25, 1430, and was interred in a *chapel* which he built on the north side, near the eastern end of his cathedral. In the chapel is an handsome monument, with his figure in freestone, pontifically habited, and beneath is a stone figure of a skeleton in a shroud.

WILLIAM GREY, or GRAY, was consecrated Bishop of London in 1436, and of Lincoln in 1431; this see being then as much superior in value to London as it is now inferior. He died at Buckden, in February 1435, and was buried in the upper lady chapel of this cathedral. No memorial remains of him.

WILLIAM ALNWICK, Bishop of Norwich, succeeded to the see of Lincoln September 1436. He was a considerable benefactor to both these cathedrals; of the latter he built the stately porch at the great south door, and of the former the west front. He also erected the castle gate and chapel at Lincoln. Dying December 5, 1449, he was buried in the nave of the cathedral, near the western door.

MARMADUKE LUMLEY, Bishop of Carlisle, where he had presided twenty years, was translated to Lincoln 1450. He died

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* Gough's Sepul. Monts. Vol. II. pt. 2. p. 76.

the following year in London, and was privately buried in the Charterhouse, or Chartreuse Monastery, there.

JOHN CHADWORTH, Archdeacon of Wilts, succeeded to the see of Lincoln in 1452: died November 23, 1471^{*}; and was interred in the south aisle of this cathedral, where a marble monument was raised to his memory, with an engraved brass, having a long Latin inscription. This prelate was a native of Gloucestershire, and made master of Queen's college, Cambridge, in 1446.

THOMAS SCOTT, known by the name of *Rotherham*, Bishop of Rochester, Chancellor of Cambridge, Keeper of the Privy Seal, and Lord Chancellor, was translated to Lincoln in 1471; and thence to York in 1480, when

JOHN RUSSELL, Bishop of Rochester, was translated to this see. He was the first fixed Chancellor of the University of Oxford; as before his time the office was filled by annual election. This prelate was Lord Chancellor in the time of Richard the Third, and is highly spoken of for learning and piety, by Sir Thomas More, in his history of that king. He added a chapel to the cathedral, and built great part of the episcopal palace at Buckden, in 1480. He died at Nettleham, Jan. 30, 1494, according to the register of that church; and was buried in the cathedral. Near the south door of the chanter's aisle is an *altar tomb*, and surbased arch, with a chapel behind it, dedicated to St. Blase.

WILLIAM SMITH, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, was translated to Lincoln, November 1495. While Chancellor of the University of Oxford, he laid the foundation of Brazen-nose College, but died before he had finished it, Jan. 2, 1513; and was buried near the west door of the cathedral. His Will contains many curious bequests of vestments, books, &c. to the chapel of Brazen-nose college.

THOMAS WOLSEY, dean of this church, was consecrated bishop, March 26, 1514; but being in high favour with the Pope and

^{*} Mr. Gough has it, "Dec. 1, 1471."

and the King, he was within a few months translated to the Archiepiscopal See of York, and afterwards advanced to the dignities of Cardinal and Lord Chancellor, in which characters he stands particularly distinguished in the annals of this kingdom.

WILLIAM ATWATER, Dean of Salisbury, and Chancellor of Lincoln, was consecrated, Nov. 12, 1514; died at his palace at Woburn, Feb. 4, 1520; and was buried in the nave of this cathedral, where was a marble tomb, with an inscription on a brass plate.

JOHN LONGLAND, Dean of Salisbury, was consecrated May 3, 1521. He was esteemed a man of great learning, and a popular preacher; but generally blamed for taking advantage of his situation, as Confessor to Henry the Eighth, to promote the divorce between that monarch and his Queen Catherine. This prelate greatly improved the *palace at Woburn*; and built a chapel in the cathedral, in imitation of Bishop Russell's, with a similar tomb for himself; but dying at Woburn, May 7, 1547, he was privately interred in Eton College chapel. In his time King Henry seized on the treasures of Lincoln cathedral, and forced the bishop to surrender part of his lands.

HENRY HOLBECH, D.D. who, for his pliant concurrence in the arbitrary measures of Henry the Eighth, had been advanced to the See of Rochester, and was thence translated in 1547, 1 Edward the Sixth, to Lincoln, on condition that he should give up the episcopal estates, to which he readily agreed; and before he had been a month in possession, he confiscated in one day all the principal manors annexed to the see. The list may be seen in the patent, printed in Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. XV. p. 66. By these alienations, this bishopric, from one of the richest, became one of the poorest in the kingdom; and its remaining revenue was rendered still more insignificant, by its consisting only of the impropriations of small livings. He also gave up for ever the episcopal palace at London, and whatever else the court required, leaving his successors no other residence than the palace at Lincoln. In the first year of his translation the *spire* of the

cathedral, reputed higher than that of Salisbury, fell down. He died Aug. 2, 1551, and was privately buried in the cathedral.

JOHN TAYLOR, dean of this church, was advanced to the bishopric, June 26, 1552; but, being a zealous protestant, was deprived of his see by Queen Mary.

JOHN WHITE, Prebendary of Winchester, and Warden of Wickam's college there, was consecrated bishop of Lincoln, April 1, 1554. In 1556, he was translated to the see of Winchester.

THOMAS WATSON, Dean of Durham, and Master of St. John's college, Cambridge, succeeded to this see, being consecrated, Aug. 15, 1557. He obtained restitution of part of the plate and other ornaments of which his cathedral had been deprived; and also procured for the see several estates, instead of those which had been surrendered by Bishop Holbech, and the patronage of many benefices, which had belonged to religious houses, but on the dissolution was vested in the crown. On the accession of Elizabeth, and the re-establishment of the reformation, Bishop Watson, being a strenuous papist, was deprived of his see, and committed to close confinement in or near London, for twenty years, when he was removed to Wisbech, where he died, in 1584.

On the deprivation of Bishop Watson, NICHOLAS BULLINGHAM, archdeacon of this church, was consecrated bishop, January 21, 1559. Having surrendered all that his predecessor had obtained for this see, he was translated to that of Worcester in 1570. On the 24th of February, in the same year,

THOMAS COOPER, Dean of Oxford, was consecrated, and translated in 1583 to Winchester, where he died, April 29, 1594.

WILLIAM WICKHAM, dean of this church, succeeded Bishop Cooper in the see, December 6, 1584, and in that of Winchester, February 22, 1594; but died June 11, following, before he had taken possession of the latter bishopric. He was buried in the church of St. Mary Overy, in the borrough of Southwark.

WILLIAM CHADERTON, Bishop of Chester, was translated

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to Lincoln, April 5, 1595; died April 11, 1608, and was obscurely buried at Southoe, within a mile of his palace at Buckden.

Lincoln.

WILLIAM BARLOW, Bishop of Rochester, was removed thence to this see, July 21, 1608; he died September 7, 1613, at his palace at Buckden, where he was privately interred.

RICHARD NEALE, who had been Bishop of Rochester, and afterwards of Lichfield and Coventry, was translated to Lincoln, in 1614. He was removed to the see of Durham in 1617, to that of Winchester in 1627, and lastly to York in 1631.

GEORGE MONTAIGNE, Dean of Westminster, succeeded Bishop Neale in the see of Lincoln, Dec. 14, 1617, whence he was translated to London 1621, thence to Durham, and afterwards advanced to the See of York.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Dean of Westminster, and Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, was consecrated bishop of Lincoln, Nov. 17, 1621. He contributed largely to the repairs of the palaces at Lincoln and Buckden. In 1641 he was translated to York.

THOMAS WINNIFFE, Dean of St. Paul's, was consecrated, February 6, 1642. In the civil commotions of the ensuing years, his palaces were destroyed, and all the revenues and temporalities of the see sequestered and plundered. On which he retired to Lamborn, where he discharged the duty of a parish minister, died September 19, 1654, and was there buried.

On the restoration of monarchy and episcopacy, ROBERT SANDERSON, prebendary of this church, was consecrated, October 28, 1660; but enjoyed his dignity only two years, dying January 29, 1663. He was buried in the chancel of Buckden church. Though a man of universal learning, he was particularly skilled in antiquities and heraldry, and assisted Sir William Dugdale in his ecclesiastical researches.

BENJAMIN LANCY, Bishop of Peterborough, was translated to Lincoln 1663, and thence, in 1667, to Ely, where he died, January 24, 1674, and was buried in that cathedral.

WILLIAM FULLER, Bishop of Limerick, in Ireland, succeeded

ceeded to this see in 1667. Having devoted much time and money to the ornamenting his cathedral, he died, April 22, 1675, and was interred behind the high altar, where a monument was erected to his memory.

THOMAS BARLOW, Archdeacon of Oxford, was consecrated, June 27, 1675. Being a rigid Calvinist, and consequently no friend to episcopacy, he never personally visited any part of his diocese, nor was ever at Lincoln; on which account he was commonly called Bishop of Buckden, where he chiefly resided. He was also remarkable for his temporizing conduct at the revolution; though apparently zealous for King James while on the throne, yet on his abdication, no one took a more decided part against him, or was more forward in ejecting the clergy who scrupled to take the oaths. He died October 8, 1691, and was buried in Buckden church.

THOMAS TENNISON, Archdeacon of London, was consecrated, January 10, 1692. In 1694 he succeeded Dr. Tillotson as Archbishop of Canterbury; died at Lambeth palace, December 14, 1715, and was buried in the parish church there.

JAMES GARDINER, sub-dean of this cathedral, was consecrated March 10, 1694; departed this life March 1, 1705, and was buried in the cathedral, under a raised marble monument.

WILLIAM WAKE, Dean of Exeter, was consecrated October 21, 1705; and on the death of Dr. Tennison, in 1715, was advanced to the Archiepiscopal see of Canterbury.

EDMUND GIBSON, Archdeacon of Surrey, succeeded to this see by the special recommendation of his immediate predecessor, Bishop Wake; was consecrated February 12, 1715, and translated to the see of London in 1723.

RICHARD REYNOLDS, Bishop of Bangor, was translated to Lincoln 1723; and died January 15, 1740.

JOHN THOMAS, Bishop elect of St. Asaph, was translated to the see of Lincoln in 1740, and thence to that of Salisbury in 1761, when

JOHN GREEN, dean of this church, succeeded to the bishopric
in



LINCOLN CATHEDRAL—WEST FRONT.

in 1761. He was appointed Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's in 1771, and died in 1779. The same year

THOMAS THURLOW, brother to the lord chancellor of that name, and Dean of Rochester, was advanced to the see of Lincoln; appointed Dean of St. Paul's in 1781; and in 1787 translated to the see of Durham. He was succeeded in the Bishopric of Lincoln and Deanery of St. Paul's by

GEORGE PRETTYMAN TOMLINE, D. D. F. R. S. &c. who now holds those dignities.

The CATHEDRAL, or as it is usually called, the MINSTER, is justly the pride and glory of Lincoln. This magnificent building, from its situation on the highest part of a hill, and the flat state of the country to the south-east and south-west, may be seen at the distance of twenty miles. Raised at a vast expence, by the munificence of several prelates, it discovers in many parts singular skill and beauty; particularly its western front, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most unobservant traveller. And of all the ancient fabrics of this description now remaining in England, no one deserves the attention of a curious enquirer more than this, "whose floor," says Fuller in his humorous style, "is higher than the roof of many churches." It may be said to be a building proportioned to the amplitude of the diocese; and is justly esteemed one of the most extensive and regular of its kind, notwithstanding it was erected at different periods, and has undergone various alterations in later times. After the see was removed to this place, the new bishop, Remigius, according to Henry of Huntingdon, "purchased lands on the highest parts of the city, near the castle, which made a figure with its strong towers, and built a church, strong and fair, in a strong place and in a fair spot, to the Virgin of Virgins, in spite of all the opposition from the Archbishop of York, who laid claim to the ground, placing in it forty-four prebendaries. This afterwards being damaged by fire, was elegantly repaired," by that munificent and pious Bishop of Lincoln, Alexander.

auder. The first foundations were laid in the year 1086, by Bishop Remigius, and the building was continued by him and his successor, Robert Bloet. Soon after the death of this bishop, the church is said to have been burnt down* about A. D. 1127, and rebuilt by Bishop Alexander, his successor, with an arched stone roof, to prevent the recurrence of a like accident in future; and it is stated, that he set his whole mind upon adorning his new cathedral, which he made the most magnificent at that time in England. But though thus rendered pre-eminent for size and decoration, it was made more elegant, &c. by St. Hugh of Burgundy, in the time of Henry the Second. This prelate added several parts, which were then named the *New Works*†. To shew what these consisted in, and the periods when different alterations and additions were made to this structure, I shall transcribe a passage from the ninth volume of the *Archæologia*, the substance of which appears to have been derived from the archives of the cathedral.

“A. D. 1124. The church was burnt down. Bishop Alexander is, in the historical accounts given to the public, said to have rebuilt it with an arched roof, for the prevention of the like accident. But John de Scalby, Canon of Lincoln, and Bishop Dalderby’s registrar and secretary, says of Robert de Chesney (who succeeded Alexander), that he—“*Primus Ecclesiam voltis lapideis communit, 1147.*”

“1186. John de Scalby says of Hugh the Burgundian, Bishop of Lincoln, that he “*fabricam ecclesiæ a fundamentis construxit novam.*” This can relate only to alterations and repairs of the old church, for the new east end was not begun to be built till 120 years after.”

“1244-5

* Mr. Gough says, “only damaged.”

† It appears, from various documents, that all additions made to ancient structures were called *New Works*. Various alterations, &c. were made at Ely cathedral, nearly at the same periods that others were making at Lincoln, and they are all called *New Works*, or “*Novæ Opera.*”

"1244-5. The great *tower* fell down, and greatly damaged the church. Very little was done to repair this disaster, till the time of Oliver Sutton, elected Bishop, 1279. The first thing which he set about, was extending the Close wall, but not so far to the east as it now is, for it was, as will be seen, further enlarged; and he afterwards completely repaired, in concurrence with the dean and chapter, the old church; so that the whole was finished, painted, and white-washed, after the year 1290. When this work was done, the great tower was carried up no higher than to the part where the large windows begin, and where the bells now hang. The upper part was, with the other new work, begun sixteen years after."

Lincoln.
Cathedral

"1306. The dean and chapter contracted with *Richard de Stow*, mason, to attend to, and employ other masons under him, for the new work; at which time the new additional *east end*, as well as the upper parts of the great tower and the transepts were done. He contracted to do the plain work *by measure*, and the fine carved work and images *by the day*."

"1313. The dean and chapter carried the close still further eastward, so as to enlarge the canon's houses and mansions, the chancellory, and other houses at the east end of the minster yard."

"1321. In this year the *new work* was not finished; for Bishop Burghwash, finding that those who were entrusted to collect the money given by voluntary contribution, and legacies to the church, detained the same, and were backward in their payments, published an excommunication against all offenders in this way, which tended, "in retardationem fabricæ."

"1324. It may be collected, the whole was finished about 1324; but this is no where specified. The late Bishop of Carlisle, Dr. Lyttleton, conjectured, that all was finished about 1283. Conjecturers are led into this mistake by supposing, that the work was finished soon after King Henry the Third's charter, granted for enlarging the church and close."

"1380. John Welburn was treasurer. He built the tabernacle

nacle at the high altar, the north and east parts as now standing; and the south was rebuilt after, to make the north and south sides uniform. He was *master of the fabric*, and the principal promoter of making the two stone arches under the west towers, and the vault of the high tower; and caused the statues of the kings over the west great door to be placed there."

"N. B. This *new work* is all of the regular order of Gothic architecture, as I have supposed it to be finally established by the Free Masons. The rest of the church is in part the opus romanum, and partly of the style of the first essays of the Gothic." Communicated by Mr. Bradley to Governor Pownal.

These notices are important; for it is interesting to ascertain the dates, &c. of such ancient buildings as are beautiful or grand. The one now under consideration presents, in its different parts, both these characteristics; the principal of which I shall endeavour to describe and particularize.

The cathedral church consists of a nave, with its ailes, a transept at the west end; and two other transepts, one near the centre, and the other towards the eastern end: also, a choir and chancel with their ailes of corresponding height and width with the nave and ailes. The great transept has an aile towards the east; attached to the western side of this transept, is a gallilee, or grand porch; and on the southern side of the eastern aile are two oratories, or private chapels, whilst the north side has one of nearly similar shape, and character. Branching from the northern side, are the cloisters, which communicate with the chapter house. The church is ornamented with three towers; one at the centre, and two at the western end. These are lofty, and are decorated with varied tracery, pillars, pilasters, windows, &c. To furnish the reader with an adequate idea of the *dimensions and general size* of this structure, I subjoin the following table; the measurements for which were made by Mr. T. Espin, of Louth; and I believe are more accurate than any hitherto published.

The *height* of the two *western towers*, 180 feet. Previous to the year 1808, each of these was surmounted by a central *spire*
the

the height of which was 101 feet. The *great tower* in the middle of the church, from the top of the corner pinnacle to the ground, is 300 feet; its width is 53 feet. *Exterior length* of the church, with its buttresses, 524 feet; interior length, 482 feet; width of *western front*, 174 feet; exterior length of *great transept*, 250 feet; and interior, 222 feet; the width is 66 feet. The lesser or *eastern transept*, is 170 feet in length, and 44 in width, including the side chapels. Width of the cathedral 80 feet; *height* of the vaulting of the nave, 80 feet. The chapter-house is a decagon, and measures, interior diameter, 60 feet 6 inches. The cloisters measure 118 feet on the north and south sides, and 91 feet on the eastern and western sides.

Such are the principal measurements of this spacious fabric; to describe the whole of which would occupy a volume. Therefore, in the following particulars, I can only advert to, and notice a few of its prominent features.

Though it will not be an easy task to define and discriminate all the remaining portions of Remigius's and Alexander's buildings, yet there are some parts which may be confidently referred to as the works of those prelates. The *grand western front*, wherein the greatest variety of styles prevail, is certainly the workmanship of three, if not more, distinct and distant eras. This is apparent to the most cursory observer; and on minute inspection by the discriminating architect and antiquary is very decisively displayed. This portion of the fabric consists of a large square-shaped façade; the whole of which is decorated with door-ways, windows, arcades, niches, &c. It has a pediment in the centre, and two octangular stair-case turrets at the extreme angles, surmounted by plain spire-shaped pinnacles. This front may be described as divided into three distinct, though not separated parts; a centre and its two lateral sides. The first presents three perpendicular divisions, and three others from the bottom to the top. In the lowest are three door-ways, a large one in the centre, which directly opens to the nave, and two smaller ones facing the side ailes. These arches are semicircular,

cular, with various architrave mouldings, ornamented with carved figures, foliage, &c. and on each side are columns which are also decorated with sculpture. These door-ways are of handsome proportions, and the sculpture is but little mutilated. On each side of the two small doors is a large niche under a semicircular arch, above which are some pieces of ancient emblematical sculpture in relief. Over the great western door-way are some statues of kings, &c. under decorated canopies, and above them is the large western window, with mullions and tracery; a circular window, with a cinque-foil mullion, is seen above this; at the sides of which the flat wall is ornamented with a sort of trellis work, or lozenge-shaped tracery. This facing prevails in the lateral gables, north and south of the two western towers; also within the towers. The general shape and ornaments of the western front will be understood by reference to the annexed plate, from a drawing by Buckler.

The upper transept, and the choir, appear the next in point of date. These are in the sharp-pointed or early English style; and their architecture is very irregular, having pillars with detached shafts of purbeck marble, in different forms, but all very light; those on the sides of the choir have been formerly strengthened. Some of the arches are high and pointed, others obtuse, with straight upright lines above their imposts; a few small arches are semicircular, and many are of the trefoil-shape. The vaulting is generally simple, the ribs of a few groins only have a billeted moulding; a double row of arches or arcades, one placed before the other, is continued round the inside, beneath the lower tier of windows. The windows, which are lofty and narrow, are placed two or three together: the greater buttresses in front are ornamented in a singular manner, with detached shafts, terminating in rich foliage; the parapet is covered with lead, and the ailes have a plain stone parapet, with a billeted moulding underneath. Some of the sculpture is well executed; but the arches and mouldings are very imperfect. This part of the fabric was probably built by
Bishop

Bishop St. Hugh. The great transept, the *gallilee porch**, and the vestry are nearly of the same, but in a later style. The vestry is vaulted, the groining having strong ribs; and beneath it is a crypt, with groins, converging into pointed arches.

The nave and central tower were next rebuilt, probably begun by Hugh de Wells, as the style of their architecture is that of the latter part of the reign of John, or the beginning of Henry the Third. It seems to have been carried on from the west, as the two arches next that end are narrower than the others; perhaps they stand on the old bases. The clustered pillars of the nave are not uniform, some being worked solid, and others having detached shafts: the upper windows are clustered three together, and two are included within each arch of the ailes. The lower part of the north wall is plainer than the south, whence it may be concluded that this was built first. Part of the great tower was erected by Bishop Grosthead, who also finished the additions, which had been begun to the old west front; for there is the same fascia or moulding under the uppermost story as is continued twice round the rood tower, and altered it to its present form. The part extending from the smaller transept to the east end, was probably built by Bishops Gravesend, Sutton, and d'Alderby, about the conclusion of the thirteenth, or commencement of the fourteenth century. Over the south porch, which is highly ornamented, is a representation of the final judgment, in bold relief. The lower windows have slender clustered pillars, with capitals; and the heads are ornamented with circles, cinque-foils, and other devices: but the large east window does not correspond in richness with the other component parts. The upper windows have double mullions; and a gallery runs between the upper and lower tiers. Bishop d'Alderby built the upper story of the rood tower, and added a lofty spire, which

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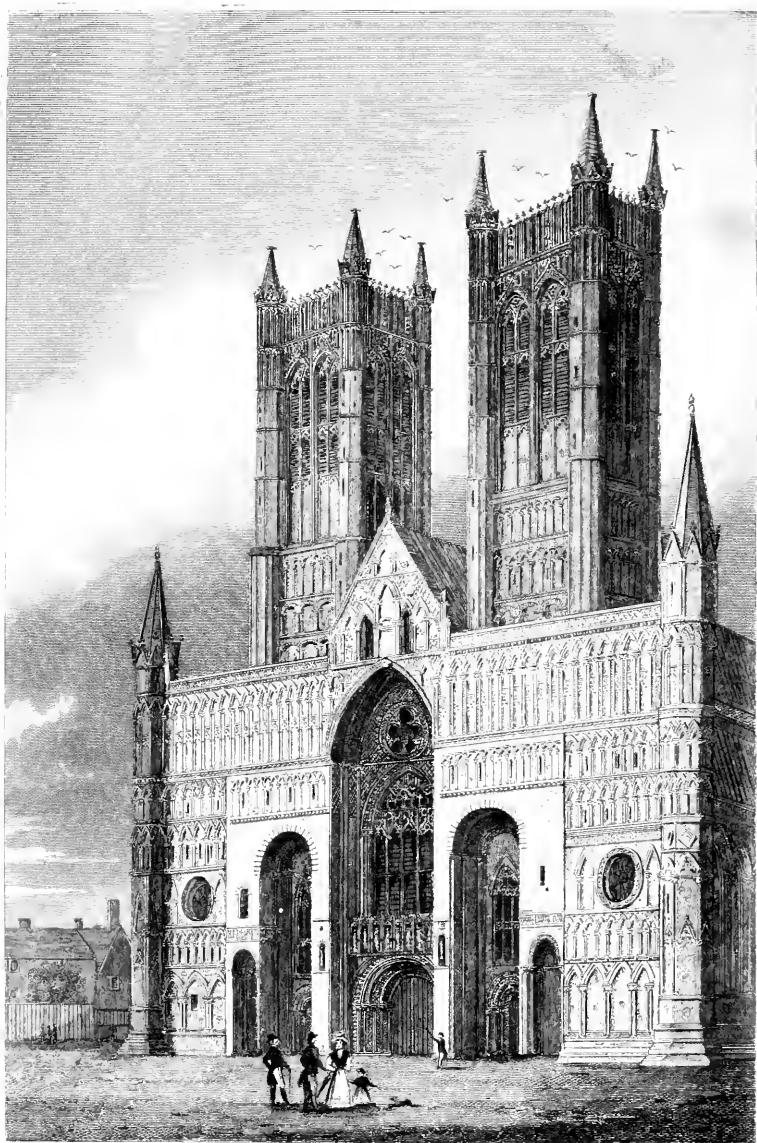
* This is said to have been formerly appropriated to the use of probationary penitents, previous to their being re-admitted into communion with the faithful.

was constructed of timber, and covered with lead. This was blown down in a violent storm of wind, A. D. 1547; and the damages then sustained, were not wholly repaired till the year 1775.

Bishop Alnwick probably raised the western towers, and erected the wood spires, the taking down of which, lately by the dean and chapter, has provoked much splenetic animadversion. He added also, the three west windows, and the figures of our kings, from the conquest to Edward the Third. The arch of the centre window is much older than its mullions. The ceilings of the towers, and facing of the interior parts of the three west entrances, are of the same age. The great marigold window at the south end of the lower transept, was built about the time of Edward the Third.

Various Chapels were erected, and chantries founded at different periods, for the interment of the great, and the performance of mass, to propitiate the Deity in favour of their departed spirits, and those of their friends and relations. A *chantry* was founded within the close of the cathedral, by *Joan de Cantelupe*, in the thirty-first of Edward the Third, for a warden and seven chaplains, to pray for the soul of Nicholas de Cantelupe, her husband; as also for her own soul, after death, and for the souls of all the faithful departed. *John Welbourn*, treasurer of this church, fortieth of Edward the Third, founded a *chantry* here. In an ancient MS. of the dean and chapter, containing copies of deeds and charters respecting this chantry, &c. is a curious instrument, which conveys the house that belonged to "Elye" (Elias) the son of a Jew, who was hanged at Lincoln, and the lands of another Jew, who was outlawed.

Richard Fleming, Bishop of Lincoln, built a chapel near the north door, where a statue lies on an altar tomb of marble in his pontifical robes. Bishop Russel, in the time of Henry the Seventh, also built one for the place of his interment, on the south side of the presbytery. And in imitation of this, during the succeeding reign, Bishop Longland erected another for the like purpose.



pose. This is a beautiful and interesting specimen of the architecture of the age.

The late Earl of Burlington, whose taste for architecture gave him the title of the English Palladio, in a question of precedence between the cathedrals of York and Lincoln, gave a decision in favour of the latter; and preferred the *west front* of it to any thing of the kind in Europe, observing, "That whoever had the conducting of it, was well acquainted with the noblest buildings of old Rome; and had united some of their greatest beauties in that very work." That nothing might be wanting to render this church as splendid in furniture as it was elegant in its decorations, it received the most lavish donations. Indeed so sumptuously was it supplied with rich shrines, jewels, vestments, &c. that Dugdale informs us Henry the Eighth took out of its immense treasure no less than 2621 ounces of gold, and 4285 ounces of silver, besides pearls and precious stones of the most costly kind. Also, two shrines, one called St. Hugh's, of pure gold; and the other of massy silver, called St. John's, of d'Alderby: at the same time the episcopal mitre is said to have been the richest in the kingdom.

From the time the custom of burying in churches was adopted till the present, this cathedral has had its share of costly sepulchres; its chapels, walls, and columns have been ornamented or disfigured by monumental records and emblems of mortality. But when the observer views the state of such pious memorials, and compares them with the number and grandeur of those, which history relates to have been here erected in the different periods, he is strongly reminded of the transitory nature of the very exertions made to counteract the oblivious ravages of time; and of the ineffectual mode of securing to ourselves or others the meed of posthumous fame, by the pomp of monument or lettered stone. Of many of these tombs not a vestige remains, nor are the places known where once they stood.

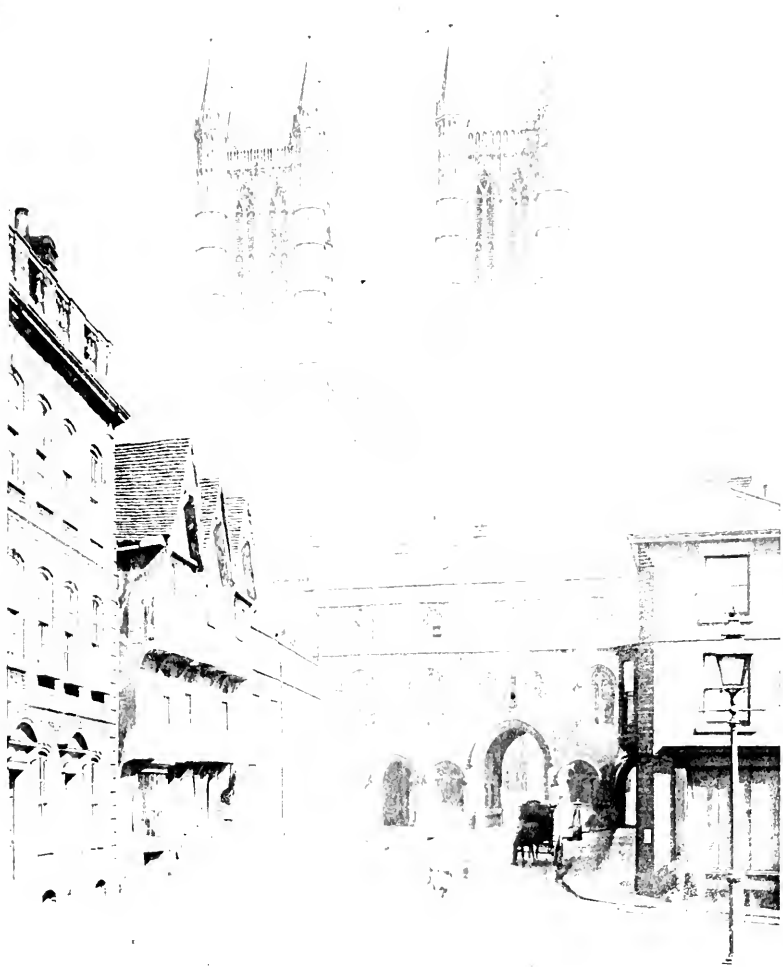
At the reformation, for the purpose of finding secreted wealth, and under the pretence of discouraging superstition, many of them were destroyed. Bishop Holbech and Dean Henneage, both vio-

lent zealots, caused to be pulled down or defaced most of the handsome tombs, the figures of saints, crucifixes, &c. so that by the close of the year 1548, there was scarcely a perfect tomb or unmutilated statue left. What the flaming zeal of reformation had spared was attacked by the rage of the fanatics in the time of Charles the First. During the presidency of Bishop Winniffe, A. D. 1645, the brass plates in the walls, or flat stones, were torn out, the handsome brass gates of the choir, and those of several chantries pulled down, and every remaining beauty, which was deemed to savour of superstition, entirely defaced; and the church made barracks for the parliamentary soldiers.

In 1782, the floor of the cathedral was new paved, which occasioned a great change in the state of inscribed stones, and the alterations lately made in the transepts and choir, have totally disarranged many of the principal tombs. In the choir were four monuments, one of which is said to have belonged to REMIGIUS, the first bishop. Mr. Gough* observes, "both Remigius, who began to build this church, and his successor Bloet, who finished it, are said by Willis to have been buried in the church of Remigius's building; the first in the choir, the other in the north transept, and both to have had contiguous monuments, or as he calls them, chapels on the north side of the choir." It seems probable that the present monuments ascribed to both were erected over their remains within the old choir, when it was rebuilt by Bishop Alexander in the reigns of Henry the First and Stephen. This choir was continued further east about the close of Henry the Third's reign, and the screen, rood-loft, and stalls, made in that of Edward the Second. To one of these periods may those monuments therefore be ascribed. The knights on the front of this monument may denote soldiers placed to guard our Lord's sepulchre; as on a tomb in the north side of the altar at Northwold in Norfolk, where are three armed men between three trees, all in a reclining posture. Another monument commemorates *Catharine Swinford*, wife of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster.

Her

* Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. p. 11, 18.



Her figure is engraved on a brass plate, and the following inscription is preserved on the fillet :

“ Ici gist Dame Katharine, duchesse de Lancastre jadys femme de la tres noble & tres gracios prince John duc de Lancaster; fils au tres noble roy Edward le tierce. La quelle Katherine moreult le x jour de May l'an de grace mil. cccc. tierz. De quelle almes Dieu eyt mercy & pitee.” Amen.

At the foot of the above is another monument, to the memory of *Joan Countess of Westmoreland*. She was only daughter of John of Gaunt, by the above wife, and was also interred here in November 1440. Attached to a monument of grey marble, on a fillet of brass, was this inscription :

“ Filia Lancastr. ducis inelyta, sponsa Johanni's
Westmorland primi subjacet lis comitis.
Desine, scriba, snas virtutes promere nulla
Vox valeat merita vix reboare sna.
Stirpe, decore, fide, tum fama, spe, prece, prole,
Artibus & vita polluit immo sna.
Natio tota dolet pro morte. Deus tulit ipsam
In Bricii festo, M. quater C. quater X.”

In the south aisle were twenty-four monuments; among which were those to Bishops Repington, Gravesend, and Grosthead. In our lady's chapel was a marble *altar monument*, or cenotaph, with the figure of a queen, and on the edge, in Old English characters, this inscription :

“ Hic sunt, sepulta viscera, Alianore quondam Regine
Anglie Uxor is Regis Edwardi fili Regis Henrici cujus
Anime Proprietur Deus. Amen. + Pater noster.”

On the north side of the same chapel were two curious tombs of freestone, arched and carved. One of those, with the figure

of a man in armour, Mr. Sanderson supposes was intended for *Sir John Tiptoft*, in the time of Edward the Third. Under the small east window is a *chantry* founded by *Nicholas Lord Cantalupe*. In this under a lofty pinnacled canopy, is an altar tomb of speckled marble, ascended by steps, having three large shields on the sides, with the figure of a man, armed as a knight, designed for the said Lord Cantalupe. And another under a like canopy, with a figure in his robes, to the memory of Dean Wymbish. At the east end of this chantry is a flat stone, with the brasses gone, to the memory of Lady Joan Cantalupe. In the centre of the east end is a chantry, which was founded by Edward the First, wherein the bowels of his Queen Eleanor were interred.

“BARTHOLOMEW LORD BURGHersh, brother to the bishop of that name, lies opposite to him in the north wall of what was Borough’s, or rather Burgherst’s, or St. Catharine’s chapel, on a tomb under a canopy; his figure in freestone, in armour; at his feet a lion; under his head a helmet, from which issues a lion on his side, like another with two tails, on a shield held over his head by two angels. On the front of the tomb, over six arches which have formerly held twelve figures, are twelve coats*.”

“On the north side of the lady chapel, or rather on the south side of St. Catharine’s or Borough’s chapel, north of the other, at the feet of Bishop Burghersh, is an altar tomb, without canopy or figure. The cover is made up of two flat blue slabs, the uppermost and largest seemingly reversed, and the other a fragment of a grey slab once charged with a brass shield and ledge; neither of which seemed to have belonged to this tomb originally. On the north side are five arches with ten figures of men and women all buttoned with roses, (one man holding a scroll), and all standing in pairs, and in the spandrils of each arch over them these coats beginning from the east.” Mr. G. particularly describes the arms; gives the various conjectures which have been formed of the person for whom this monument was intended, and concludes

* Gough, Sep. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. p. 108.

cludes—"Notwithstanding the various opinions about this tomb, it is most probable it was erected for John Lord Welles, who died thirty-fifth of Edward the Third, 1361, seized of vast possessions in the county of Lincoln*."

In the aisle, on the south side of the choir, is the pedestal of a monument, which Stukeley supposed to have been formerly the shrine of St. Hugh, the Burgundian, and in his *Itinerarium Curiosum* he has given an engraving of a raised altar tomb, with an elegant pinnaced shrine, of a pyramidal shape, under this name. But Mr. Lethieulier, in the first volume of the *Archæologia*, observes, that no instance occurs of a saint having two shrines dedicated to him in the same church.

The imputation of the Jews having from time to time crucified children has been, by Rapin and some other historians, considered as an unfounded calumny. It is mentioned, however, by Mathew Paris, an historian of veracity, who was unlikely to be deceived as to an event which happened during his life time. The fact is established, Mr. Lethieulier thinks, beyond all contradiction, by a commission from the king to Simon Passeliere and William de Leighton, to seize for the kings use the houses belonging to the Jews, who were hanged at Lincoln for crucifying a child, &c.

Many defaced monuments, and others which had lost both figures and inscriptions, were taken up during the new paving, and are intended to be placed in the aisles of the choir, or in the cloisters. On the north side of, and connected with the cathedral, is the CLOISTERS, of which only three sides remain in the original state. Attached to the eastern side is the CHAPTER HOUSE, a lofty elegant structure. It forms a decagon, nineteen yards in diameter, the groined roof of which is supported by an umbilical pillar, consisting of a circular shaft, with ten small fluted columns attached to it; having a band in the centre, with foliated capitals. From this the groins issue, resting on small columns on each side. One of the ten sides forms the entrance, which is of the same altitude as the Chapter House. In the

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other

* Gough, Sep. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. p. 111, 113.

other sides are nine windows, having pointed arches with two lights each. Seven of these have five arcades beneath each; and under the two others are four.

The Library over the north side of the cloister was built by Dean Honeywood, whose portrait by Hanneman is still here preserved. In this room is a large collection of books, with some curious specimens of Roman antiquities: One is a red glazed Urn, having at the bottom the maker's name, DONATVS, F. Also several fragments of pottery, among which are many urns and vessels of various construction. A very large one of baked earth, unglazed, is of a roundish shape, with a short narrow neck, to which are affixed two circular handles. It is one foot four inches in diameter, and two feet four inches in height. There is also a very curious glass phial, of a bluish green colour, with a handle near the mouth: it is three inches diameter, by nine inches and a half high. Its contents consist of pieces of bones of too large a size ever to have been put in through the present aperture. This circumstance has excited much surprize; but it would hence appear probable, that in some instances, the Romans, after they had blown the vessel, and deposited the sacred relics, again heated the glass, and gave the upper part of it the requisite shape.

The Officers belonging to this cathedral are the Bishop, Dean, Precentor, Chancellor, Subdean, six Archdeacons, fifty-two Prebendaries, four Priest-Vicars, five Lay-Clerks, or Singing-men, an Organist, seven Poor Clerks, four Choristers, and six Burghirst Chanters. "The dean is elected by the chapter upon the king's letters recommendatory; and upon the election being certified to the bishop, he is instituted into the office of dean, and collated to some vacant prebend, to entitle him to become a residentiary. The precentor, chancellor, and subdean, are under the patronage of the bishop, and by him collated to their several dignities. To the precentorship and chancellorship, prebends are annexed. And when the subdean is collated, if he is not already a prebendary, the bishop confers on him a vacant prebend; and by the

the statutes of the church, the above dignitaries, being prebendaries, are of course residentiaries*."

Of the *Monastic Institutions*, which owed their origin to the pious sentiments of the early ages, some account has been given in the enumeration of religious houses. The disposition of the English seems, naturally, or politically, adapted to religion; and, at a very early period, christianity met with a favorable reception; made a rapid progress, and exhibited in its converts more zeal, and retained its fervor longer in this kingdom than in any other: upon which account England merited the appellation it received, "*The Isle of Saints*." Besides monasteries, nunneries, and other buildings erected for pious uses, Lincoln could boast of more than fifty churches; most of these, however, by the obliterating hand of time, exist only upon record, and the dilapidated state of others tend to remind the reflecting traveller, that devotion was more the characteristic of former, than of the present times. Exclusive of the cathedral, eleven churches† only now remain, and

* Bacon's Liber Regis.

† According to Leland's statement, "There be in the north part of the town, upon the hill, 13 parochie churches yet used; I saw a roll, wherein I counted that there were xxxviii parochie churches in Lincoln." In another part he says, "there goith a commune fame, that there were ons 52 parochie churches yn Lincoln citie, and the suburbs of it." In the lower part of the town, called by him *Wikerford*, he says, "there are xi parochie churches, one there I saw in clete name, beside the other xi."—Since that period many have fallen into decay, and some have been rebuilt. But as very erroneous statements have been made, in works *professing* to furnish authentic accounts of the *present state*, &c. of places, especially in the list of parishes contained in Carlisle's Topographical Dictionary, it will be proper to give the following more accurate list of *churches and parishes in Lincoln*:—All Saints, in the close, a vicarage; All Saints, Hungate; St. Andrew's, Danegate; St. Andrew's, by the palace; St. Andrew's, Wigford; St. Anne's, Thorugate; St. Augustine's; St. Baron's; St. Bartholomew's, a curacy; St. Clement's, in the bail, a vicarage; St. Clement's, Butterwick; St. Cross's; St. Cuthbert's, near Dewstone; St. Dennis's; St. Edmund's; St. Edward's; St. Faith's;

and over many of these, which are modern buildings, the writer would gladly throw a charitable veil.—The situation, however, in which they are placed, the rank they hold among public buildings, and the sacred use for which they were intended, all furnish a powerful cause of lamentation, that structures, so mean, so ill designed, and so puerile in form and character, should ever have been dedicated to the service of the Deity. With regret it must be said, that few of them, either from external grandeur or internal decoration, merit a particular description.

St. Bennet's church, a little to the south of High-bridge, consists of a small nave and a north aisle, with a square tower at the west end. The tower is about twenty-five feet high, with four windows, in the early Norman, or Saxon style; having more modern battlements. It appears that the nave formerly extended further towards the west. The south windows are placed high, having under them a projecting torus moulding; and under the nave is a row of curious diminutive heads. The aisle has a handsome east window, in the style of King Henry the Seventh's time; and the windows of the nave appear to have been enlarged in the fourteenth century. On the floor are many ancient monumental flat marbles, but their brasses are gone. Against the west wall is a square brass plate, to the memory of Alderman

Becke

Faith's; St. George's, Thorngate; St. Giles's, in the East; St. Gregory's; St. Innocent's; St. John's, Corn-market; St. John's the Poor, a vicarage; St. Lawrence's, in Bulbury; St. Leonard's, Eastgate; St. Mary, Crakepool, a vicarage; St. Michael's, on the Mount, a discharged curacy, church rebuilt; St. Peter's, by the Pump; St. Peter's, Fishmarket; St. Peter's, Stonebeck; St. Peter's, Hungate; St. Rumbold's; St. Stephen's; St. Trinity, Greestone Stairs; St. Trinity, Clasketgate; St. Nicholas, in Newport, Church gone; St. Swithin's, a discharged curacy, church rebuilt; Holy Cross church, near the Grammar-school, in ruins; St. Benedict's; St. Mark's, rebuilt; St. Margaret's, curacy, united to St. Peter's Eastgate, church down; St. Mary's, in Wigford; St. Mary Magdalen; St. Michael's, Curacy church down; St. Paul's, rebuilt; St. Peter's, at Gowts, a curacy; St. Peter's, Eastgate, rebuilt; St. Peter's, at Arches, has been rebuilt for the corporation.

Becke and family, on which are engraved the effigies of him and his wife, and children; the date 1620.

The *Church of St. Mary de Wigford* has a nave, chancel, and a north aisle; a south porch, and a lofty square tower, at the west end of the nave. The tower is of the Norman style. It has no buttress, but is square and plain up to the belfry story; where a torus moulding forms a base for the uppermost story, which is narrower than the other parts of the edifice. The belfry has four windows, each consisting of two lights, divided by a column; the ornamented battlements, with figures at the angles, appear of more modern date. The south side of the nave is coeval with the tower; the aisle seems to have been added, and the windows enlarged, about the reign of King John; but the upper part of the aisle is of Henry the Seventh's time. Against a door-way, now blocked up, in the north wall, is a statue of an upright female figure, much defaced. The west door-way is of singular construction: the frames are plain and square, with a circular arch, having imposts, not projecting in front, but ornamented with small squares, alternately raised and depressed; the latter of which have a small knob; in the centre of each is a transom stone resting on the imposts, and the arch is blocked up. Round the arch is a double billeted moulding, on the right of which is a Roman monumental inscription, almost obliterated with dirt. From the appearance of the arch, &c. it may be conjectured that this part of the building is very ancient.

St. Peter's, at Gowts, situated on the south side of an old building, opposite what is called John of Gaunt's house, is a very ancient structure. That was probably some religious house, and this the chapel annexed. The church has a lofty tower in the Norman style, similar to that of St. Mary's; but in a more perfect state. On the front is a figure carved in relief, which, from the key placed in its hand, was doubtless meant for St. Peter. The nave and chancel are very lofty, and appear to have been coeval with the tower. On the north side of the nave is a short thick column, with two circular arches, through which formerly the communication

communication was made to the north aisle, now taken down. On each side of the chancel are narrow lancet windows, like loop-holes; and on the north side is a door-way, having a flat arch built up. The south aisle, which is in the style of the fourteenth century, has a porch, and is separated from the nave by two lofty elegant pointed arches. On the south side of the chancel is a chapel, with some remains of painted glass in its east window. Under one of the arches, which separates the nave from the south aisle, is a small stone *font*, of high antiquity; round the outside is a row of small circular arches.

St. Martin's Church is still prebendal; it consists of a nave and chancel, with a modern tower, built in the last century, by Alderman Lebsey. In a chapel to the north of the chancel is a large monument of alabaster, with two whole length recumbent figures, to the memory of *Sir Thomas Grantham* and his lady; date 1618. The canopy falling down some years ago, greatly damaged the figures.

Other places of worship for the different denominations of dissenters, are, one for Roman Catholics, one for Independant Baptists, one for Calvinists, and another for Methodists.

The number of parishes within the city are twelve, which, with the four townships within its jurisdiction, make sixteen. These, according to the late government survey, consist of 1574 houses, which accommodated a population of 7398 persons. Though many of the houses are old, there are some very good buildings, both upon and below the hill. The city has of late been considerably improved, by the making of a new road, paving some of the footways, erecting a new market place, also shambles for meat, and lighting it.

Lincoln has a large trade in corn and wool, quantities of which are exported into Yorkshire, by vessels which obtain a back freightage of coals, and other necessary articles for the use of the interior. This city is a county of itself, having subject to it four townships in the neighbourhood, Bracebridge, Canwick, Branston, and

and Waddington, called the "Liberty of Lincoln." This privilege was conferred in the third year of the reign of George the First; and in official acts it is denominated, "*The City and County of the City of Lincoln.*" Its viscountial jurisdiction extends twenty miles round: a privilege unequalled by that of any city in the kingdom. It sent members to parliament as early as the time of Edward the First. In the twenty-sixth year of that monarch, A. D. 1298, Willielmus Disney and Johannes Marmion, were summoned to parliament as its first representatives. In the History of the Boroughs of Great Britain, it is said, "This city had summons with London and York, to send members to parliament, the forty-ninth of Henry the Third. The right of election is considered to be in the freemen, and the number of voters is about eleven hundred. The political influence, though it is by no means absolute, is possessed by Lord Delaval, who has a seat at Doddington, in the neighbourhood."

Lincoln is governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor; twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, twenty-eight common councilmen, and four chamberlains; who have a recorder, deputy-recorder, steward of the courts of borough-mole, a town-clerk, and four coroners. Also a sword-bearer, mace-bearer, cryer, four sergeants at the key, or bailiffs, constables, and other inferior officers. The mayor is elected on the fourteenth of September, from among the aldermen; the senior, if he has not served the office before, is the person elected. If all have served the office, then he who is the highest in order of standing, is elected to serve a second year.—At the same time two citizens, who have served the office of chamberlain, are elected sheriffs: the one nominated by the new mayor, and the other elected by a majority of votes among the mayor, aldermen, and common council: the mayor having a casting vote.—The chamberlains are chosen from among the freemen, by the mayor, upon the Monday after the feast of St. Michael. If any refuse to serve the offices to which they are thus elected, the mayor and corporation are invested with a power to compel them, by fine and imprisonment.

The

The cordwainers and weavers are the only privileged companies still subsisting here: indeed, they appear to have been the only companies incorporated by royal charter. The former as early as the second year of King Richard the Second, A. D. 1389.

Like all other corporate places, the genius of trade is shackled in Lincoln; and that vigour which it derives from a spirit of rivalry is suppressed, by what is considered, in such cases, a justifiable partiality: though in no instance does it contribute to the wealth or comfort, and certainly not to the credit, of a town. All persons who have not obtained their freedom, if they carry on any kind of trade, are obliged to pay an annual acknowledgment to the sheriffs for the time being, for the allowance of such privilege.

It was incorporated as early as the reign of Edward the Second. Henry Best was the first mayor, in the seventh year of that reign. This city has had the honour of conferring the title of Earl upon several noble families.

Leland observes, in his description of Lincoln, “There be 4 commune places, named as ferys, upon the water of *Lindis*, betwixt *Lincoln* and Boston; the which feris leade to divers places. To Short Fery, 5 miles. To Tatershaul Fery, viij miles. To 1 Dogdich Fery [1 mile]. To Langreth Fery [five miles]. To Boston [5 miles].

“Gates in the waulles of the citie of Lincoln. *Barregate*, at the south ende of the toune. *Bailegate*, by south a little a this side the minstre. *Neurportgate*, flat north. *Estgate* and *Westgate*, toward the castel. Sum hold opinion, that est of Lincoln were 2 suburbes of it, one toward S. Beges, a late a celle to S. *Mari* Abbay at *York*; the which place I take be *Icanno*, wher was an house of monkes yn S. Botolphe’s tyme, and of this spekith Bede. It is scant half a mile from the minster.

“It is easy to be perceived, that the Toune of *Lincoln* hath be notably buildid at 3 tymes. The first building was yn the very toppe of the hylle, the oldest part wherof inhabited in the *Briton’s* tyme, was the northethest part of the hille, directly
without

withoute *Newporte Gate*, the diches whereof yet remayne, and great tokens of the old towne waulles, buildid with stone taken oute of y diche by it; for at the top of *Lincoln* hille is quarre ground. This is now a subarbe to *Newport Gate*, in the which now is no notable thing, but the ruines of the house of the *Augustine* freres on the south side, and a paroch chirch of the est side; and not far from the chireh garth apperith a great ruine of a towr in the old towne waulle. Sum say that this old *Lincoln* was destroyed by King *Stephen*, but I thinke *rather* by the *Danes*. Much *Romaine* money is found yn the north (feildes) beyond this old *Lincoln*. After the destruction of this old *Lincoln*, men began to fortifie the souther parte of the hille, new diching, waulling, and gating it; and so was new *Lincoln* made out of a pece of old *Lincoln* by the *Saxons*.

“ The third building of later tymes was in *Wikirford*, for commodite of water; and this parte is enwallid wher it is not defendid with the ryver and marish ground. The river of *Lindis* fleateth a litle above *Lincoln* towne, and maketh certain pooles, whereof one is called *Swanne* poole.”

Of the CASTLE, built by the Conqueror, little now remains; and the area is occupied by buildings appropriated to uses of the municipal power. The few remaining vestiges convey the same idea of original Norman architecture as that of *York*, erected nearly at the same period. The Keep was not included, but stood half without and half within the castle wall, which ascended up the slopes of the hill, and joined the great tower. This being situated on a high artificial mount, it was equally inaccessible from within and without the castle area. It was nearly round, covering the summit of the mount; and was thus rendered a distinct stronghold, tenable with or without the castle. This accounts for the circumstance mentioned by Lord *Lyttleton*, of the Earl of *Chester* making his escape, while the castle was invested by *Stephen*. From the Keep to another tower, placed also on an artificial mount, was a covered way, by which a private communication was kept up. The walls are above seven feet thick;
and

and under the place of ascent from the covered way, there is something like the remains of a well, protected by the massy thickness of the walls. The outer walls of the castle inclose a very large area, the entrance to which was by a gateway, between two small round towers, still standing, under a large square tower, which contained magnificent rooms. In one corner of the area is a curious small building, appearing on the outside like a tower, called *Cobs-hall*; which Mr. King thinks originally was used as a chapel; "having a fine vaulted roof, richly ornamented, and supported by pillars, with a *crypt* underneath; and adjoining it a small antichapel." The pillars were so placed against the loop-holes through which the light was admitted, that they proved a defence against missive weapons. On the north western side are the remains of a turret, having the curious arch mentioned by Sir Henry Englefield, which being in the line of the Roman wall, might have belonged to a more ancient building, or been a gateway to the old city. Within the area of the castle are the county gaol and shire-hall, both modern structures, and well adapted to their respective purposes.

Few places in the kingdom exhibit so many ancient remains as Lincoln. Saxon, Norman, and pointed arches; and door-ways with turrets, walls, mullioned windows, and other fragments of old dilapidated buildings, appear in every direction. Its numerous churches, and religious houses, the vestiges of which occasionally meet the eye of the enquiring traveller, are numerous; and though they are highly interesting to the antiquary, as tending to illustrate the progress of the arts, and the history of past ages, yet a description of them all would take up more room than can be allowed consistently with the plan of the present work.

The *Mint-wall*, mentioned by Mr. Gough, is still remaining, and forms part of the inclosure of a garden, belonging to the present Rector of St. Paul's. It is annexed to the *duchy of Lancaster*.

Chequer or Exchequer Gate, at the west end of the cathedral, had

two

Lincoln

two gate houses ; the western one was taken down about ten years ago. That to the east still remains, and has three gateways, vaulted with brick, and two turrets between them. In Eastgate Street are two very ancient gateways, one of which is nearly entire.

At the bottom of the town, near to Brayford water, are yet the remains of a fort, called *Lucy Tower*, whence, by a subterraneous passage, a communication is traditionally said to have been formed with the castle. Near the remains of a chapel, called *St. Giles's*, on the top of the hill, in an adjoining close, is an entrance to a subterraneous passage, vulgarly called *St. Giles's Hole*; how far it extends has not been ascertained. In and about the city are several of these passages through the rocks.

At the north east corner of the miinster yard is a large *gateway*, with a groove for a portcullis; and near it a smaller one, leading to a house called the *Priory*. The greater portion of this house is modern; but on the north side is an ancient tower of three stories, much defaced, which, from its situation on the town wall, appears rather to have been a *military* than a *religious* building. The most singular feature is in the south wall; it resembles a niched tomb, about three feet six inches in length, and over it is a recess, having an ornamented architrave, the jambs of which are curiously carved; at the back is the appearance of an aperture, now blocked up, if it was ever pierced through, like the mouth of an oven.

Following the close-wall eastward are two castellets, or watch towers, each of which had two floors, the lower ones vaulted, and surmounted with flat roofs; they have battlements, and the walls are pierced with loop holes. These stand at the corners of the chancellor's garden. From the eastern of these towers the wall returns to *Pottergate*, the south front of which is much defaced, but the north front is tolerably perfect, embattled, and handsome. This gate is supposed to have taken the name from a Roman *pottery* once here. The Priory Gate, the two towers of the Chancellor's garden, and Pottergate, are of similar architecture, and of a

synchronical date, apparently about the end of the fourteenth, or beginning of the fifteenth century.

A house of a Mr. Nelson, on the south side of the vicar's court, has a castellated appearance, and is very ancient. It seems to be in the style of Edward the First's time. In the windows are the arms of the see, handsomely emblazoned in painted glass.

The *Grey Friars*, situated on the west side of Broadgate, is a large oblong building, the lower story of which lies some feet under the surface of the ground. It is vaulted throughout, with a plain groined roof, supported by octagonal columns, having plain bases, and neat capitals. On the south side is a row of pointed windows, with buttresses between them. The old staircase, with its large awkward steps, is curious. The upper story has a mullioned window at the east end, and a cieling of wood, in the herring bone fashion. Part of this, which was the chapel, is used as a free school, and the other as a library. It was given to the city, and fitted up for this purpose, by Robert Monson, Esq. A. D. 1567. Under it is a school for spinning; and in front is the sheep market.

The DEANRY was founded by Dean, afterwards Bishop, Gravesend in 1254. The gate-house of it was built by Dean Fleming, whose arms are on it. The front, next the minster, has the initials of Roger Parker over the bow window, and the date 1616. To this adjoins an ancient building, called the *Works Chantry*, till 1321 the chancellor's house, when the present residence was assigned to chancellor Beke. It was afterwards the habitation of four chantry priests, who were to celebrate daily mass for the souls of the founders and benefactors.

The VICAR'S COLLEGE, now called the *Old Vicars*, formed a quadrangle, of which at present there remains only four good houses, inhabited by the vicars. The gateway is ornamented with the old arms of France and England, quarterly between a cross botonè, and a fess between six cross crosslets. This college,

lege, Gough says, "was begun by Bishop Sutton, whose executors finished the hall, kitchen, and several chambers. But the style of building would induce me to refer it to a later period. Edward the Third was the first of our kings who quartered the arms of France with those of England. Bishop Sutton, therefore, probably was not the founder, as he died in 1299. The long building below the quadrangle, now divided into stables and hay-lofts, seems to have been built by Bishop Alnwick, and John Breton, prebendary of Sutton cum Bucks; the Bishop's arms, A, a cross moline, S, and the rebus *Bre* on a *tun*, being on the east end."

The BISHOP'S PALACE, on the south side of the hill, which, from being situated on the summit, Leland described as "*hanging in declivio*," was built by Bishop Chesney, to whom the site was granted by King Henry the Second, and enlarged by succeeding prelates. This, when entire, was a noble structure, and scarcely exceeded in grandeur by any of our ancient castles. It was completely repaired by Bishop Williams, prior to the civil war, during which unhappy contest it was demolished. The gateway, the work of Bishop Alnwick, whose arms are on the spandrels and wooden door, was left entire. The shell of the magnificent hall, begun by Hugh of Burgundy, and finished by Hugh the Second, who also built its famous kitchen, is eighty-four feet by fifty, supported by two rows of pillars, with three arches opening into the screen at the south end, and communicating, by a bridge of one lofty pointed arch, with the kitchen, and other principal apartments. It had four double windows on each side. Part of the kitchen wall, with seven chimnies in it, is yet standing, and the front exhibits three stout buttresses. Dr. Nelthorpe, obtaining a lease of the site, built of the old materials a handsome stone house, in which the Bishop is at present accommodated when he visits the city.

At the upper end of Broadgate is an old building with two handsome mullioned windows, and an arched door-way, apparently a conventual-hall, or refectory. Over the door-way

is a curious bust, having a little figure, (of which only the lower part remains,) sitting on its shoulder. Some have conjectured that this was an allegorical figure, representing St. Christopher carrying Christ; but as a close near it is called *St. Hugh's Croft*, in which a fair was formerly held, it might allude to the circumstance of the Jews crucifying a child, who was canonized under the name of St. Hugh.

Adjoining to St. Andrew's church-yard formerly stood the palace of the celebrated *John of Gaunt*, whose arms, curiously carved in a block of free-stone, stood in the front of it, till the year 1737. This was "the goodly house" which Leland says belonged to the Suttons. Much of it was taken down in the year 1783. Some foundations were dug up last year, by the gentleman inhabiting the adjoining house, who has several heads and grotesque figures of stone fragments of the palace. In the gable end of it is still remaining a curious oriel window blocked up, and a chimney built within it. It is of a semi-octagonal shape, having two trefoiled lights in front, with two smaller ones on the side, covered with rich carved work of foliage, busts, &c. and was mounted with finials and pinnacles, which are broken off. Opposite to this house is a large building, called *John of Gaunt's stables*; which was most likely part of his palace. It was a large structure, in the Norman style, and formerly consisted of a quadrangle, enclosing a spacious area; the north and west fronts of which still remain. The entrance is under a semicircular arch; and against the front are several flat buttresses, with a small carved cornice. What appears singular in this building is, that the windows do not exhibit that mixed character discernible in many ancient structures, but are all either in the original, or in quite a modern style.

The *Jew's House*, as it is still termed, on the side of the hill, opposite a spot called the Bull-ring, is an object of great curiosity. It is singularly ornamented in front, and some of its mouldings are like those of the west doors in the cathedral. In the centre of the front is a semicircular arched door-way, with a projecting pilaster above it. In this are now two chimnies, one of which
appears

appears to have formed part of the original plan. The arches are circular withinside, and plain; and in one of the chambers is a large arched fire place, also a niche, with a triangular bend. This house was possessed by *Belaset de Wallingford*, a Jewess, who was hanged for clipping in the eighteenth of Edward the First, and the year following it was granted, by that monarch, to *William de Foleteby*, whose brother gave it to Canon Thornton, and he presented it to the dean and chapter, who are the present proprietors.

The *Stonebow* is a large tower gateway, crossing the high street. This edifice is said to have been built about the thirteenth of Richard the Second; but from the style, probably much later. The south front is decorated with the statues of the Angel Gabriel holding a scroll, and the Virgin Mary with the serpent at her feet. An old building at the east end, formerly called the *Kitchen*, is now used as the *city gaol*.

The *High Bridge*, over the main stream of the river Witham, consisting of one arch, eleven feet high and twenty-one feet nine inches in diameter, is at least considered 500 years old. From the main arch spring two others at right angles eastward, one on each side the river, which is vaulted over, and upon this vault stood the ancient chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, in which was a chantry, founded by the corporation in the time of Edward the First.

The *Market House* was built during the second mayoralty of Mr. John Lebsey, in the year 1736, by an act of common council for appropriating, during ten years, the sum of 100*l.* which had before annually been spent on the city feast.

Here were formerly two *grammar schools*, one in the Close, maintained by the dean and chapter; the other in the city, supported by the corporation. In the year 1583, both were united; the master is elected, and paid half his stipend, by the dean and chapter; the usher is elected and paid by the corporation, who are bound to pay the other half of the master's stipend, and repair the school-house.

The *Blue Coat School*, or Christ's Hospital, joins the west gate

of the episcopal palace, and is a neat modern building. This charity is intended to maintain and educate thirty-seven boys; who wear a dress similar to those of Christ Church, London.

The *County Hospital*, for the sick and infirm, was erected in the year 1769, and is supported by voluntary subscription. It appears to be conducted in a manner agreeably to the beneficent intention of its founders.

About eleven years ago a general *House of Industry* was erected, upon the plan first adopted at Shrewsbury, for the paupers of the city and liberties of Lincoln, with eighteen other contracting parishes; which, by paying a certain quota, assigned by the directors, are allowed the same privileges as the incorporated parishes within the city.

An *Asylum*, for that most unfortunate class of the children of misery, *the Insane*, is in contemplation, and very considerable sums have been subscribed and vested in the hands of trustees for the benevolent purpose of founding it.

The *County Goal* is a strong building, constructed on the Howardian plan, of separate and solitary confinement, after a design by Mr. Hayward, surveyor. It is situated in the Castle-yard, and the premises are held by lease under the Duchy Court of Lancaster. The front, containing the gaoler's and debtors' apartments, is one hundred and thirty feet in length, with about two acres of grass plat in front; in which the debtors, during the day, have the privilege of walking. Different accommodations are provided for master-side debtors, and common-side debtors; and in the common prison there are distinct apartments, both by day and night, for different descriptions of prisoners; viz. for male prisoners awaiting trial, for female ditto; for male convicts under sentence of transportation, for female ditto. In all cases the sexes are kept separate, both by day and night.

The gaoler, who is both a humane and upright man, is allowed a handsome salary. Divine service is regularly performed, and the benefit of medical advice and assistance is allowed to all prisoners. Whether the accommodations and conveniences of the building, its internal regulations, or the mode in which they are enforced,

enforced, be considered, the view is calculated to afford pleasure to the benevolent mind.

The *City Gaol at Stone Bowgate*, has long furnished a melancholy contrast. Situated in a dank dark spot, confined in its dimensions, and so constructed as almost wholly to exclude both light and air, it is highly injurious to health; and facing a great thoroughfare passage, by which means the rabble from without can hold communication with the abandoned within, it is rendered extremely prejudicial to morals, and a common nuisance to the city. It is an act of justice, however, to the late and present magistrates, to observe, that a new prison is erecting, upon the plan of that for the county, which, when finished, will do away what has long been matter of just complaint and general reprehension; and it is devoutly to be wished that the like activity, as to internal regulation, and the same spirit of humanity, will prevail, which so eminently distinguish the regulations of the county prison, and thereby redound to the honour of its magistracy.

Over the butter-market an *Assembly Room* was built in 1757, for the subscription balls of the citizens. A larger one, north of the cathedral, is appropriated to the inhabitants of the Close.

A *Theatre* has been recently opened, in the King's Arms Yard, for the accommodation of the Children of Thespis, and to add to the amusements of the place. It is a neat but small brick building, and consists of a pit, two rows of boxes, and one gallery. Plays are performed here during the race time, and for about two months in the autumn.

Among the distinguished natives of Lincoln, may be named that eminent physician and clerk, the late Dr. WILLIS. He was educated at Brazen-nose College, Oxford, where he took a master's degree, in the year 1740. After entering into holy orders, he was preferred to the rectory of St. John's, Wapping. Having a partiality to the medical profession, he determined to practice: for which purpose, in the year 1759, he accumulated the degrees of bachelor and doctor of physic at his own university. In this profession he soon became eminent; and paying particular atten-

tion to a malady, whose causes and cure were little understood, he became celebrated for the treatment of *insanity*. He went to reside in his native county, and opened a large house for this purpose at *Greatford*, where he was so successful, that on the late convalescence of our sovereign, his advice was sought for on that melancholy occasion. Having fortunately restored the king's health, the fame of his professional service to this country induced the court of Portugal to solicit his assistance for the queen, then labouring under a similar affliction; but though, after some months trial, he was unsuccessful, his reputation remained undiminished. It was a confirmed case, which completely baffled all medical skill, and resisted the force of medicine. At the time of his death, a number of afflicted persons of family and respectability were under his care at Greatford and Shillingthorpe, where the Doctor had establishments for such patients. He lived highly esteemed, and died greatly lamented, at an advanced age, December 5, 1807; and his remains were interred in Greatford church.

Having thus detailed a few particulars respecting the city, I shall proceed to give an account of the places most worthy of note in the division of *Lindsey*; first specifying the hundreds and parishes, and next recording some topographical notices of the towns, antiquities, seats, &c.

Wapentake LAWRESS WAPENTAKE contains the following parishes:—*Aisthorpe, Barlings, Brattleby, Broxholme, Burton, Buslingthorpe, Carlton North, Carlton South, Dunholme, Faldingworth, Fiskarton, Frithorpe, Grutwell, Nettleham, Rcepham, Riseholme*, extraparochial hamlet, *Saxilby with Ingilby, Scampton, Scothorn, Snarford, Sudbrooke, Thorpe West, Torksey, Wilton, Willingham*, and *Cherry*.

At **BARLINGS**, to the east of Lincoln, was a Premonstratensian abbey, now in ruins, of regular canons, founded by Ralph de

de Haye, in the time of Henry the Second, A. D. 1154. It was first situated, Tanner says, at Barling-Grange; but Ralph de Haye having bestowed on the religious a more eligible spot, called Oxeney, the abbey was removed thither; "Hence it was sometimes called the Abbey of *Oxeney*, or *de Oxeniaco*, but generally *Barlings*." It was much enriched by the liberal donations of Alice Lucey, Countess of Lincoln, and subsequently by further grants from several illustrious families. In the twenty-sixth year of Henry the Eighth, the revenues were rated, according to Tanner, at 242l. 5s. 11d. The famous *Dr. Makerel*, who headed the Lincolnshire rebels, under the assumed name of Captain Cobler, was abbot of this monastery. The cause of that insurrection was the suppression of some religious houses, or as it is stated by others, the imposing an unpopular tax. Makerel was taken, and hanged at Tyburn, for denying the king's supremacy, March 29th, 1537. The hexagonal tower at Barlings, engraved by Buck, is nearly down; nothing of the building remaining but part of a wall, and some pieces of mutilated columns. These were clustered; and the fragments shew, that they were richly ornamented with capitals, terminating in light and elegant foliage. Not far distant is

SUDBROOKE HOLME, the seat of Richard Ellison, Esq. M. P. for the city of Lincoln, and lieutenant-colonel of the royal North Lincoln militia. The mansion, a handsome brick edifice, was built by the late Richard Ellison, Esq. The parish is a rectory, in the patronage of the Bishop of Lincoln. The old church being dilapidated, a new one was erected by the liberality of the proprietor of Sudbrooke Holme. In the church-yard is a fragment of an old cross.

SOUTH CARLTON is a small village, famous for being formerly the seat of the Monsons. Sir William Monson, who was knighted at the siege of Cadiz by the Earl of Essex, was a naval captain in several expeditions against the Spaniards, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. He took a carrack of *sixteen hundred tons*, at Cazimbria, near Portugal; and, for that gallant action, was made an
admiral,

admiral. He wrote an account of the Spanish wars from 1585 to 1602; stood high in fame at the commencement of James the First's reign, and died shortly after. Sir John Monson, Knight of the Bath, and a Baronet, was also of the same family; studied at the Inns of Court, and became an eminent lawyer. During the troubles between King Charles and his parliament, he attended that monarch, and assisted in all his councils and treaties. After suffering much for his loyalty, his estates being sequestered, he purchased the privilege of retirement at the expence of 2642l. Here he wrote "An Essay upon Afflictions," "An Antidote against the Errors of Opinions," and "Supreme Power and Common Right." The grandfather of the present Lord Monson was created a baron, by the title of Baron Monson, of *Burton*, in Lincolushire, by King George the Second. The present family mansion is at BURTON, a village about two miles south of North Carlton. The house is seated in a finely wooded park.

Scampton. At SCAMPTON, a village about six miles north of Lincoln, was discovered, in the year 1795, the foundations, &c. of a *Roman villa*. It was situated on the brow of the hill, at a short distance north of the Roman road, which communicated between Lindum Colonia, and Agelocum, on the Trent. The character and dimensions of it have been carefully investigated by the Rev. C. Illingworth, the worthy rector of this parish, who has described it with plates, &c. in a topographical history of the place. From the plan, including an area of 200 feet square, the number of apartments, which were upwards of forty, and the dimensions of some, with their decorations of painted, stuccoed walls, and tessellated pavements, it appears to have been a villa of considerable elegance and distinction. Out of thirteen pavements, only one was perfect, which was engraved by Mr. Fowler, of Winterton. Some of the walls were of great thickness; and various Roman antiquities were found scattered over the foundations. In two of the rooms were discovered skeletons, which, from some of them lying upon the foundation walls, others being inclosed in a sort of stone coffins, rudely formed of one hollow stone covered by

by another, and all placed in a position due east and west, Mr. I. concluded, "that some Saxon, or other Christian chapel might have been erected on the site of the villa *;" which conclusion he considered was supported from the circumstance of its being upon record, that a chapel, dedicated to St. Pancras, did exist as early as the commencement of the twelfth century on that spot, near to a chalybeate spring, still called *St. Pancras' Well*.

In domesday book the manor which was granted to the Gaunt family, is stated to contain ten carucates of land. And it is a singular circumstance, that the lands in Lincolnshire, as set forth in that celebrated survey, were measured and taxed, not according to *hides*, but *carucates*; and whenever these are mentioned, without reference to hides, a carucate was equal in quantity to the hide, which was about six score acres, though the quantity varied in different counties. "In provincia Lincolnie non sunt hide, sicut in aliis provinciis, sed pro *hidis* sunt *carucata* terrarum et non minus valent quam hide†." An ancient custom prevailed in this manor, as it did in many parts of the north, called *Inham*, but more properly *Intok*, or *Intak*, which signifies, any corner or part of a field fenced out from the fallow, and sown with beans, peas, oats, or tares.

In the church are several monuments of the *Bolles* family, anciently lords of the manor. At a short distance from the church formerly stood the family residence, *Scampton-Hall*, erected on the site of the West Grange, belonging to Kirksted Abbey. But upon the death of the last Sir John Bolles, Bart. in 1714, his sister and heiress, Mrs. Sarah Bolles, residing at
Shrewsbury,

* At the early dawn of Christianity in this kingdom, it was usual to erect buildings for Christian worship on the site of others which had been dedicated to Pagan superstition. The first cathedral of St. Paul's was built on the site of a temple dedicated to Diana. The parish church of Richborough stands on the site of a sacellum belonging to the Prætorium. And the same is observable at Porchester, Verulam, and other Roman stations.

† Walter de Witteley, Monk of Peterboro'. Fol. 37.

Shrewsbury, suffered the family mansion to fall into ruins. It was seated in the centre of a small park; part of the old walls are incorporated with those of a farm house, near which an ornamental gateway is still standing, built about the time of James the First, and probably coeval with the mansion. It is an archway, having over it an entablature, supported on each side by double columns of the Doric Order, with ornamented knobs on the shafts.

WELL WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Brampton*, *Burtongate*, *Fenton Hamlet*, *Kettlethorpe* and *Lougherton*, *Kerby*, *Knaith*, *Marton*, *Newton*, *Stow*, *Sturton* and *Bransby*, *Upton* and *Willington by Stow*, and *Torksey*.

TORKSEY, situated at the junction of the Fossdyke with the Trent, is a small obscure village, but a place of high antiquity, and formerly of considerable consequence. "*Torksey* was a Roman town, built at the entrance of the Foss into the Trent, to secure the navigation of those parts, and as a storehouse for corn, and was walled about. The present castle is founded on the old Roman granary, which was much like Colchester castle, with circular towers at the corners. A foundation still visible all along the edge of the original site*." Anterior to the arrival of the Normans, it appears from Domesday Book, that this place had 200 burgesses, who enjoyed many privileges. For which they were bound, as often as the king's ambassadors came that way, to convey them in their own barges down the Trent, and conduct them to the city of York. The bank of the river is a very deep sand, and on this declining shore it was that Paulinus baptized the Lindisians, in presence of Edwin, King of Northumberland, as Bede says; and here, doubtless, was the long-sought *Tiorulfingacæstre* of that author. The Romans conducted

* Stukeley's Letter to Mr. Gale.

conducted the outlet^r of the Fosdyke, between two small hills, into an angle of the Trent.

The present remains of the *castle* exhibit a western front, with four irregular turrets, placed at unequal distances, and a fragment of the south end, originally part of the offices, now converted into stables. The apartments seem to have been spacious; but there is no appearance to indicate that any outworks ever existed. It was probably, therefore, intended rather as a magnificent residence, than a place of defence. The building is of brick, but the corners and battlements are of stone, and stands about sixty yards from the bank of the river, which sometimes flows up to the foot of the ruins.

Here was a *priory of Austin Canons*, built by King John. It consisted of only four religious persons about the time of the dissolution, when its annual revenues were valued at 13l. 1s. 4d. In the thirty-fifth of Henry the Eighth, it was granted to Sir Philip Hobby. The priory and convent fined to King John in a *palfrey*, for the confirmation of their grants, and that they might not be obliged to plead, except before the king. Here was also another religious house, called the *Foss Nunnery*, founded by the same monarch, and its privileges confirmed by King Henry the Third. It was of the order of St. Benedict, and valued, at the dissolution, at 7l. In Leland's time, Torksey had two churches; at present there is but one, which is a small, neat building, in the centre of the village. The ancient charter of this place is still preserved, by virtue of which it enjoys the privilege of a toll from strangers, who bring cattle or goods to its fair on Whit-Monday. The manor of Torksey was formerly the property of the Duke of Newcastle, by whom it was sold to the father of the present proprietor, Sir Abraham Hume, Baronet.

KNAITH is a small village, formerly the property and residence of the Barons Darcey, and afterwards of Lord Willoughby, of Parham. This place is rendered famous from having given birth to the munificent founder of the *Charter House*,

THOMAS

THOMAS SUTTON, Esq. who was born here, A. D. 1532. He received his education at Eton college, and studied the law in Lincoln's Inn; but it does not appear that he ever followed the profession. According to the *Magna Britannia*, he entered into the army, and obtained the paymastership of a regiment. Quitting the military service, he became a merchant, and acquired great riches by trade. The author of his life says, that he made several valuable purchases in the county of Durham, where he discovered coal mines. By working these he gained immense property, and by marriage obtained still more. On the death of his wife, which happened in 1602, he led a retired life, and began to think of disposing of his wealth in a way becoming the profession and hopes of a Christian. He purchased the Charter House, London, and formed it into an hospital for the infirm, and a seminary for youth. This noble monument of protestant charity, was begun and completed in his own lifetime, and endowed at his own charge. It is an institution perhaps the most magnificent ever founded in Christendom at the sole expence of an individual. He died at Hackney, in the year 1611.

BURTON GATE, five miles south of Gainsborough, is the seat of *William Hutton, Esq.* by whose father the present mansion was erected. It is a regular plain building of brick; but of a colour so nearly resembling stone, as at a distance not easily to be distinguished from it. The grounds are terminated on the west by the river Trent, to which there is a gentle, though irregular descent from the house, of nearly half a mile. This river, with the objects on its banks, form a beautiful feature.

SIDNACESTER. This place, anciently the seat of the Bishops of Lincoln, before the see was united with Dorchester and removed to that city, has long had a name without "a local habitation." Bede informs us, that Paulinus, after converting the Northumbrians, came into the northern part of the kingdom of Mercia. Successful in preaching the gospel here, he converted
Blaccca,

Blaecca, the governor of Lincolnia, or Lincoln, and baptized many people of this district in the river Trent, at a place called *Tiorulfingacæstre*. And Mathew, of Westminster, says, that over his new spiritual acquisitions, Paulinus ordained a bishop, who had six successors. On the death of Eadulph, the see having been vacant eighty years, Bishop Gibson observes, that it was united, by Leofwin, to that of Dorchester. But the question is, where was this *Sidnacester*? Mathew, of Westminster, when speaking of two of its bishops, Ealdulfus and Ceolulfus, observes, “*Hi-antem episcopi ubi sedem haberent cathedralem penitus ignoramus.*” Wharton, in his “*Anglia Sacra*,” asserts, that hitherto its situation has not been known. And Camden states, “This is now so entirely gone, that neither ruins nor name are now in being.” Hence most antiquaries have adopted a general mode of description. One says, “It was near Gainsborough;” another, “In Lincolnshire, near the Humber;” and Camden, “In this part of the county;” while some are entirely silent. Others have, however, decided upon the situation of the place. Mr. Johnson thought it was *Hatfield*, in the county of York. Dr. Stukeley, at *Newark-upon-Trent*; which opinion Mr. Dickenson, in his history of that town, has adopted, and endeavoured to establish by additional, but unsatisfactory arguments, as will be hereafter clearly demonstrated. Mr. Pegge proposes to consider *Kirkton*, or Kirton, the place. Horsley, in his *Britannia Romana*, after having fixed the Roman station, *Causennæ*, of Antonine’s Itinerary, at *Ancaster*, supposes that to have been *Sidnacester*, and the name derived from Causennacester, the first syllable being dropped, which makes *Sennacester*. Camden was inclined to fix it at *Gainsborough*; and his editor, Gibson, at *Stow*. This latter place seems to have the fairest claim; and I shall endeavour to shew the superiority of that claim to those made in favour of the places previously named, by first appealing to the authority of Bede. “Eadhaed in provincia *Lindisfarorum* quam nuperrime Rex Ergfrid, superato in bello et fugato Ulf-
here,

here, obtinuerat, ordinatur episcopus*.” Of this province, which he afterwards calls *Lindissi*, he says, Eadhaed was the first bishop. The question now reverts, where was this *Lindissi* situated, and how far did it extend? Its bounds are, by the same writer, described with sufficient accuracy, to discover that it contained the tract of country still retaining the name of *Lindsey*. “*Lindissi* quæ est prima ad meridianum Humberæ fluminis ripam.” So also Mathew, of Westminster, “Inter Lincolniam et flumen Humberi;” and further, “provinciam *Lindisse* regionis quæ est ad meridianam plagam Humberi fluminis.” Higden also states, “Provincia *Lindisfarian* est idem quod *Lindiseia*, quæ jacet ad orientem Lincolnie, cujus ipsa caput est.” Here is given its northern boundary, the Humber; and its southern, or south-western boundary, the city of Lincoln. This will invalidate the claim of *Hatfield* and *Newark*, neither of these places lying within the division of *Lindsey*. The observations of Stukeley, quoted by Mr. Dickenson, That the divisions of counties were not made till the time of Alfred; that then the wapentake of *Newark* was forcibly taken out of Lincolnshire; and that the *Trent* was the ancient, because the natural, boundary between that county and Nottinghamshire, are assertions which, if granted, would prove nothing in favour of his opinion; because the position on which his argument rests, that *Provincia Lindissi* was taken by our ancestors in so large a sense, that “It meant all Lincolnshire, whereof *Lindum* was the capital city,” is unfounded, as appears by the definition of its boundary, above quoted from Bede, and other writers. The opinion of Mr. Pegge, given in his dissertation on the subject†, that *Kirton*, about midway between Lincoln and the station of *Ad-Abum*, on the Humber, was the place, is equally untenable. The only argument he makes use of is,

“that

* Hist. Lib. IV. c. 12.

† Printed in an Appendix to the First Volume of Nichols's History and Antiquities of Leicestershire.

“that this name, signifying the *Church Town*, would be one probably given by the Saxons at first to Sidnacester.” In a subsequent place he destroys this argument by observing, that “The name has a manifest reference to a church, which is usually pronounced *kirk* in the name of places in the northern parts, particularly in Lincolnshire, where this word enters the composition of a number of names.” On this ground, other places might have equal pretensions, especially as Kirton has no vestiges of antiquity, though Dr. Stukeley fancied it was the *In Medium* of the Romans, nor any thing very noble in its appearance to induce the mind to give this the preference above the rest; yet, by an unaccountable and extraordinary mode of reasoning, Mr. Pegge thinks, “*The very obscurity of Kirkton, veiled as it were by its modern name,*” is a good argument that this was the place in question!

The reasonings of Bishop Gibson, for placing Sidnacester at Stow, are the strongest of any hitherto adduced; and his conclusion, if not decisive, is extremely plausible. Eadnorth, the Bishop of Sidnacester, who died A. D. 1050, built St. Mary’s, or the church of our Lady, in Stow. “Where then can we imagine,” says Gibson, “a Bishop of Sidnacester should so probably build a church as at Sidnacester? Or whence should he sooner take his pattern or platform, than from his own cathedral of Dorchester?” The see of *Legecester*, or Leicester, is concluded to have been where St. Margaret’s now stands; and as that is a peculiar, a prebend, and an archdeaconry, so is Stow. Besides, the present ecclesiastical privileges of this place are greater than any hereabouts, except Lincoln; and they have formerly even exceeded that. For that it was famous before Lincoln, and was a bishop’s see, is beyond dispute; and it is a common notion in those parts, both of learned and unlearned, that Stow was the mother church to Lincoln. The steeple of the church, though large, has been much greater than it is. And Alfred Puttock, or Putta, Archbishop of York, anno 1023, when he gave two great bells to Beverley steeple, which he had built, and two others of the

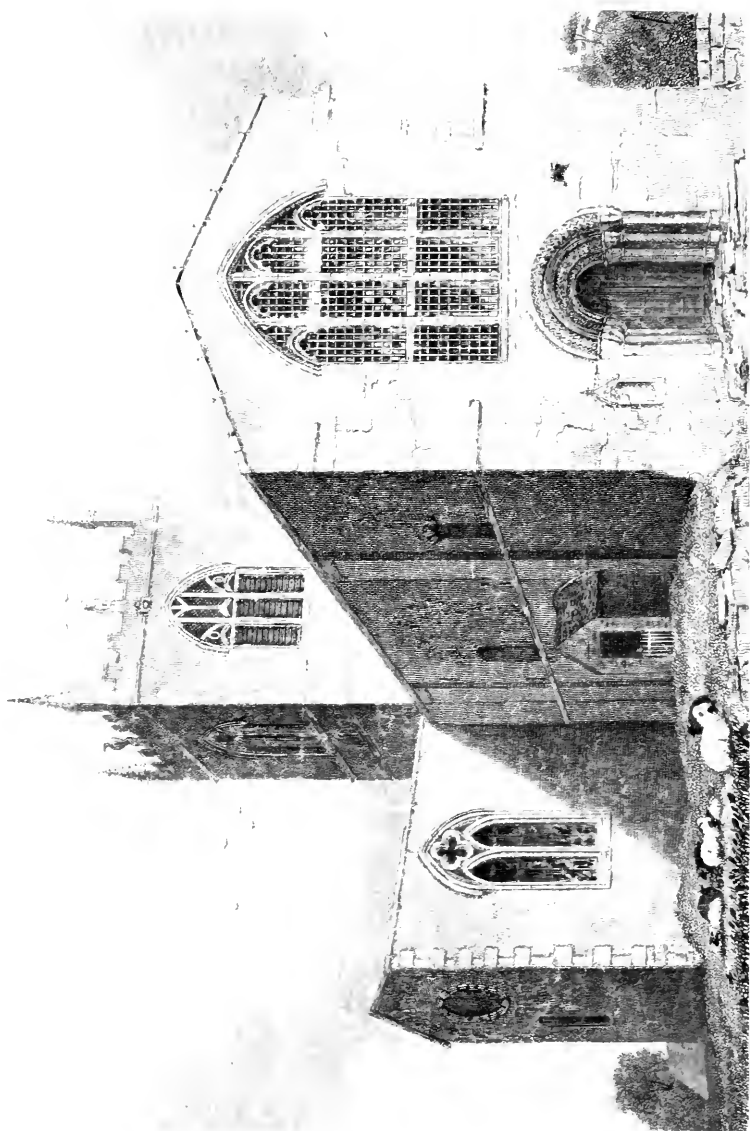
same mould to Southwell, bestowed two upon Stow*." It is generally agreed, that whatever places have *chester* in their names, were formerly *Roman* forts or stations. Upon this view, the site of Sidnacester must either have been one, or in the vicinity of one. Close adjoining to the present Stow is *Stretton*, so named from being situated on the Roman road, which branches off from the one leading from *Lincoln* to *Ad Abum*, and proceeds in a westerly direction to the Trent, and thence on to *Danum*, now *Doncaster*.

About three miles west of Stow, on the banks of that river, is the site of the ancient *Segelocum* of the fifth Iter, and the *Agelocum* of the eighth. There Horsley fixes this station: for though he says that the present village of *Littleborough* answers to it, yet he observes, "The Roman station has been on the *east* side of the river, though the town stands on the west. Roman coins have been found here, called *Swine pennies*, two Roman altars, and other antiquities†." Here was a Roman *Trajectus*, and it is still a place for passing the river, which, from the opposite village, is called *Littleborough Ferry*. In the summer season it is often fordable. About a quarter of a mile from *Marton* the Roman road is still visible; and several pieces of pavement have been found here. The ancient city might have stood more to the west; and, being built near the station, would of course obtain the addition of *Castra*, and Saxon *Ceaster*.

Stow, though now a small village, is an archdeaconry; and its jurisdiction, comprehending the whole of Lindsey, is a strong argument in its claims to ancient note; but a still stronger is adduced by Mr. Gough, who says, "the district round it is called *Sidena*." The see, in the early time of Remigius, was certainly at Sidnacester; and that prelate is said to have built, or rather *re-edified*, the church of *Stow*, which had been raised by Ead-north.

* Gibson, in Camden Col. 571.

† Britannia Romana, p. 434.



north. This is a large cruciform structure, having a nave, transepts, choir, and an embattled tower rising from the centre. This rests on new pointed arches, built within the ancient semicircular arches. The length from east to west is one hundred and forty-six feet; the width of transept seventy-seven; that of the nave twenty-seven feet six inches; of the chancel twenty-five feet six inches. The western and southern entrances exhibit curious remains of the Saxon style. The western doorway is formed by three retiring columns on each side, with zigzag, or chevron mouldings round the circular arch, which rest on square abaci. Two of the shafts on each side are plain, the others octagonal, with a zigzag ornament. Over this is a large west window, having a sharp pointed arch. On the western side of the north transept is a very old Saxon arch, and another with the ends of the moulding terminating in snake's head ornament. Round the inside of the chancel is a continued arcade, consisting of semicircular arches, with zigzag mouldings resting on plain columns. On the average, they are twenty-three inches wide, and divided by half columns, or pilasters, formed by three small shafts, into divisions of five, four, and five on each side. The sides are nearly uniform in style and ornament, and from many parts being similar to what appears in Malmsbury Abbey Church, in the county of Wilts, it is probable that this part was rebuilt, by Bishop Alexander, subsequent to the time of Remigius*. The chancel appears to have been once vaulted; and within it are two stones, bearing Saxon characters, but illegible. On the floor is an ancient monument of coffin shape, with a head, or half bust, in relief, within an excavation. Inscribed are these letters:

+ ALLEN - - - - STOE

N - ERU - - ID - -

U u 2

Engraved

* These are represented and described in the *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, Vol. I.

Engraved on a copper plate, against a pillar, is this inscription:

Aspice respice, prospice.

In this chancel lyeth buried y^e bodies of RICHARD BURGH, of Stowe-Hall, Esq. & Anne his wife, descended f^m the anc^t & noble familie of the Lord Burgh, Baron of Gainesborough, & next heyr male of that familie, & the s^d Ane was the eldest daughter of Anthonie Dillington, of Knighton, in y^e Isle of Wight, Esq. had 4 sons, viz. That noble and valiant soldyer, Sir John Burgh, Collonel Gen^rall of his Maj^s forces to the Isle of Rhe, in France, where he was slaine, A. D. 1627.

The above-named Richard died, A. D. 1616. Coat of arms, three fleurs de lis, supporters two lions rampant, crowned with two hawks or falcons, with this motto:

Nec parvis sisto.

Against the south wall of the chancel is a mural stone, thus inscribed:

Neare unto this place lyeth buried the bodyes of Mr. Thomas HOLBECH, that sometyme dwelt in Stowe Parke, with Anne his wife, daughter of Anthony Yoxley, of Mellis, Esq. which said Anne deceased the 7th day of Sep^r. An. Dom. 1581, and the s^d Tho^s. dece^d the 16th day of Aprill, 1591. And they left issue one only son, named Edward.

In the church, under the tower, was a large flat stone, inscribed in old letters, M,CCC,II. The pulpit is made of curiously carved oak. The clock is a piece of peculiar and curious mechanism, having a pendulum vibrating at longer intervals than is usual. But the most interesting object, after the church, to the antiquary, is a curious ancient FONT. It stands upon a platform, ascended by two steps. The base, or pedestal, is square; on which is carved a figure, in relief, of a wivern, or dragon*, intended as a personification of Satan, and allusive to his fall, by the efficacy of Christian baptism. The shaft is circular,

* A similar animal appears on the crest of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster: also on the reverse of his great seal. See Sandford's History, &c. p. 102.

circular, and surrounded by eight short pillars, with foliated capitals. The upper part is octagonal; and each face, or side, has an ornamental device.

Near the church are two sides of a quadrangular moat, which, it is supposed, surrounded either a palace of the bishop, or the old manor house. It is evident that the bishops had formerly a palace in this parish, as some records are still preserved, with the signature of the Diocessan, at his palace of Stow. "Here was a church, or minster, for secular priests, built to the memory of the blessed Virgin Mary, by Eadnorth, Bishop of Dorchester, and much augmented by the benefactions of Earl Leofric, and his Lady, Godiva. After the conquest, the religious here were changed into benedictine monks, under the government of an abbot, by Bishop Remigious, who got for them, of William Rufus, the desolate abbey of Eynsham, in Oxfordshire, whether his successor, Robert Bloet, removed them, reserving Stow, Newark, and some other estates, to the see of Lincoln, for which he gave them in exchange Charlbury, and others*."

About one mile south-west of the church is

STOW PARK, which is now divided into four farms; and here are still traces of a large moated place, which, according to tradition, inclosed the Bishop's palace. Considerable foundations of buildings have been found here.



ASLACOE EAST AND WEST WAPENTAKES Contain the parishes of *Atterby, Cainby, Firsby east, Firsby west, Glenthams, Hackthorn, Haworth Cold, Normanby, Norton Bishop, Ownby, Saxby, Snitterby, Spridlington*:—*Blyborough, Cammeringham, Coates, Fillingham, Glentworth, Harpswell, Hemswell, Ingham, and Willoughton*. In the parish of Hemswell is

* Tanner's Notitia,

SPITTAL IN THE STREET, taking the former name from having an hospital, and the latter as lying upon a Roman road. This place consists of a farm-house, an inn, a sessions-house, a chapel, and an almshouse for poor women. Over the chapel, which is a small building, is this inscription :

Fui anno domini . . . 1398	} Domus Dei & pauperum.
Non fui 1594	
Sum 1616	

Qui hanc Deus hunc destruet.

The hospital, to which the chapel is annexed, was founded before the sixteenth of Edward the Second, and augmented by Thomas Aston, canon of Lincoln, in the time of Richard the Second. It is under the protection of the dean and chapter of Lincoln. Against the wall is—DEO & DIVITIBUS, AO. DNI. 1620. Over the sessions-house, *Hæc domus dat, amat, punit, conservat, honorat, Equitiam, pacem, crimina jura bonos.* 1620. Arms of Ulster. Over the door, *Fiat Justitia*, 1619. The manor belongs to the family of Wray, an ancestor of whom, who was Lord Chief Justice of England, built the sessions-house.

Near Spittal is NORTON PLACE, a handsome seat of John Harrison, Esq. M. P. The house was built in 1776, from a design, and under the direction, of Mr. Carr, architect, of York. The interior of the mansion consists of elegant apartments, commanding fine views of the pleasure grounds, which are laid out with taste; and a handsome stone bridge, of three arches, over an extensive piece of water, gives a pleasing effect to the surrounding scenery.

In the parish of *Fillingham* is SUMMER CASTLE, a family mansion of the Wrays*. It was built of stone dug on the estate in

* This family was anciently seated in the county of Durham, and possessed estates in the county of York. Sir Christopher Wray, Knight,
Lord

in the year 1760. The house is in the castellated form; square, with a circular bastion tower at each corner, and an embattled parapet. Standing on an eminence, the views from it are very extensive, bounded on the west by the Peak of Derbyshire, on the south by the high lands of Leicestershire, on the north by those of Yorkshire, and on the east by the Lincolnshire Wolds. The park is well wooded, and the effect of the plantations greatly heightened by that animated appearance which water ever gives to sylvan scenery. In the grounds adjacent to the castle are evident marks of a Roman camp; for in digging have been found Roman coins, broken spears, swords, and bridle ornaments. In a stone coffin were discovered human bones, cased in searcloth and lead, with the vacancies filled up with liquid lime and alabaster. Fossil shells have also been dug up here, such as ophites, or *cornua ammonis*, and pyrites.

CORRINGHAM WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Blyton* and *Wharton*, *Cleatham* township, *Corringham* great and little, *Ferry* east, *Gainsborough*, *Grayingham*, *Heapham*, *Kirton*, *Laughton*, *Lea* and *Lea-wood*, *Morton* township, *Northorpe*, *Pilham*, *Scotter*, *Scotton*, *Southorpe*, *Springthorpe*, *Stockwith East* township, *Walkerith* township, and *Wildsworth* hamlet.

GAINSBOROUGH,

Though not a corporate, is a considerable market town, situated on the eastern bank of the Trent, and consists principally of one

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long

Lord Chief Justice of England in the time of Queen Elizabeth, on his first residence in this county, settled at *Glentworth*; in which church is a tomb erected to his memory, with the effigies of the judge in his robes, and his lady by his side.

long street, parallel with the river, which is navigable to this place for vessels of 150 tons burthen. It carries on a considerable trade in corn and other commodities to and from the coast, and also participates with Hull in the trade to the Baltic. Though the paralyzing effects of war have, in common with other commercial places, been felt here; yet centrally situated on a tide river, with which a communication is preserved, by means of canals from distant parts of the interior, it must, as long as a spirit of activity and industry remains, necessarily command a considerable share of trade. By the Readley Canal, which, uniting the Trent and the Dune, passes through a rich country to Rotherham, a communication is opened to Yorkshire; by the Chesterfield canal, which joins the Trent at Stockwith, four miles below the town, an easy access is opened to the counties of Nottingham and Derby; and at Torksey, about seven miles south, the Foss-Dyke admits the vessels of this port to Lincoln.

The *church* is a neat modern structure, of that motley architecture which is the disgrace of the present enlightened æra. Such incongruous edifices are a burlesque upon improvement, and a stigma on the national taste. In a more appropriate style is the fine stone bridge, of three elliptical arches, over the Trent, completed in 1791. It is private property; and even foot passengers are subject to a toll. The elevated road towards Bawtry was formed at the same time. In digging to lay the foundation of the western buttment of the bridge, an ancient dagger was found, supposed to be of Danish fabrication. The *town-hall*, in the market place, is occasionally used as an assembly room. It is a brick building, under which are shops, and a dismal place called the gaol. The sessions for this part of the county were formerly held here; but for some years past have been removed to Ritson. The *old hall*, commonly called the *palace*, is a singular edifice. It is constructed principally of oak timber framing, and forms three sides of a quadrangle, open to the south. The western exterior consists of a stack of large chimnies, built of brick. At the north-east corner is an embattled tower, having
small

small windows, coped with stone, the arches of which are of the flat pointed style. Hence to the southern extremity of the eastern end, the facing is brick, with stone-coped windows. In the lower story of this wing is a large room, till lately used as a ball-room. On the northern side is a small handsome building, formerly the chapel. The staircase, made of oak, was very spacious; and a few years ago this, with the kitchen, and two immense fire-places remained entire. In the arches, within the hall, are niches, with figures of kings, warriors, &c. The highest tower is twenty-six yards in height; and the whole building was about six hundred feet square. It was once moated round, part of which is still visible, and had large gardens and fish-ponds. At the south end of the eastern wing is a sun-dial, bearing the date 1600; whence a conjecture has been formed, that it was erected about that time; but the building is evidently much older, though probably of a later period than the time of John of Gaunt, whose palace it is said to have been. It is now converted into apartments for families. In 1742 it was inhabited by Sir Neville Hickman, Bart. and is now the property of his descendant, Miss Hickman, of Thonock Grove.

Gainsborough is famous in history, as being the anchoring place of the Danish ships, when the sanguinary tyrant *Sweyne* ravaged and laid waste many parts of the country. Returning from his horrid expedition, Mathew, of Westminster, informs us, that he was here stabbed by an unknown hand, and thus received the punishment due to his crimes. On the south part of the town was an old chapel of stone, in the time of Leland, in which, tradition says, many Danes were buried. Some ages afterwards, Gainsborough formed part of the possessions of William de Valence, who obtained for it the privilege of a fair in the time of Edward the First. The Barons of Burgh, who formerly resided here, were descended from this nobleman, by the Scotch Earls of Athol, and the Percys, Earls of Northumberland.

Of this family, Thomas, Lord Burgh, grandson of Thomas, who was created Lord Burgh by King Henry the Eighth, was born here. He lived in the time of Queen Elizabeth, by whom

he

he was appointed to the highest trusts, and distinguished himself both in a diplomatic and military capacity. This town was also the birth-place of WILLIAM DE GAINSBOROUGH, who was bred a franciscan in Oxford, became an ambassador to King Edward the First; and for his zealous defence of the Pope's infallibility was, by Boniface the Eighth, preferred to the see of Worcester, where he died A. D. 1308. The learned and pious *Simon Patrick*, Bishop of Ely, was born here in 1626, and died in 1707.

The town has a good market on Tuesdays, and gives title of *Earl* to the noble family of *Noel*.

Half a mile to the north of this place, on a ridge that runs along the eastern bank of the Trent, are some embankments called the "CASTLE HILLS." The central encampment contains an area one hundred and seventy yards in circumference, surrounded by a double foss and vallum. These are higher and deeper towards the south-west than on the south-east, where the descent is immediate to the plain. On the south side of this circular work, and joining it, is another inclosed area, of an oblong shape, and surrounded, except the side towards the central camp, by a high raised mound, without a foss. The length from east to west is one hundred and fifty yards, and breadth from north to south fifty. On the northern side is another oblong inclosure, extending eighty yards, but the mound less perfect, and the site lower than the one to the south. The circular part appears to have been a Roman work, and the additions are probably Danish. Near this are several subordinate works; and along the ridge, to the southward, are various inclosed areas, both circular and oblong, of great dimensions; and many remains of antiquity have, at different times, been found in digging.

This station appears to have been occupied by the contending parties during the civil wars. Rushworth says, that near Gainsborough, Cromwell defeated General Cavendish, who was slain in a quagmire, by Cromwell's lieutenant, in 1643. The Lord Willoughby had before taken this town, and made the Earl of Kingston prisoner. The Earl being sent to Hull, was shot, in mistake, by the royalists in his passage over the Humber.

At

At HEYNINGS, two miles from Gainsborough, was a *cister-tian nunnery*, founded by Reyner Evermue about the year 1180. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had a prioress and twelve nuns; valued at the dissolution, according to Speed, at 58l. 13s. 4d. when the site was granted to Sir Thomas Henneage. Gough, by mistake, states its revenues at 493l.

MANLEY WAPENTAKE, contains the following parishes and townships:—western division; *Althorpe*, *Ancotts* township, *Belton*, *Butterwick* west township, *Crowle*, *Eastoft* township, *Epworth*, *Garthorp* township, *Haxey*, *Keadby* township, *Luddington*, *Owston*, *Wroot*. Eastern division; *Ashby* township, *Bottesford*, *Broughton*, *Brumby* township, *Burringham* township, *Butterwick* East township, *Froddingham*, *Hibaldstow*, *Holme* township, *Manton*, *Messingham*, *Redbourn*, *Scawby* with *Sturton*, *Scunthorpe* township, *Waddingham*, *Yaddletorp* township. Northern division; *Appleby*, *Aukborough*, *Burton-upon-Stather*, *Crosby* township, *Flixborough*, *Gunhouse* township, *Halton West*, *Roxby cum Risby*, *Whitton*, *Winteringham*, and *Winterton*.

The river island of *Axholme* contains eight parishes, which are subdivided into thirteen constableries. The chief, or principal of these is *Epworth*, the manor of which, held by lease under the crown, includes the parishes of *Epworth*, *Haxey*, *Owston*, and *Belton*, also the townships of *Diddithorpe* and *Althorpe*.

HAXEY, whence the river island of *Axholme* derives its name, Camden says, “was anciently called *Arel*. But it hardly deserves the name of a town, it is so thinly inhabited.” By the returns of the population made to parliament in 1801, it appears that the place then consisted of 323 houses, and contained 1,541 inhabitants. Here is the site of a castle which once belonged
to

to the *Mowbrays*, formerly lords of this neighbourhood, but the building was demolished in the baronial wars. In the year 1173, according to Mathew Paris, Roger de Mowbray, renouncing his allegiance to the old king *, repaired a castle at Kinard Ferry, in the isle of Axholme, which had been destroyed of old. A body of Lincolnshire men crossed over in boats, and laid siege to the castle; forced the constable and all his men to surrender, and razed the castle. Leland says, "there was a castle at the south side of the church garth of *Oxtun*, whereof no peace now standith; the dike and the hill wher the *arx* stooode yet be seene; it was sumtyme caullid *Kinard* †."

Near Milwood Park, formerly a seat of the *Mowbrays*, stood, according to Leland, a "fair carthusian monastery," in the church of which was buried John Mowbray, second Duke of Norfolk, and grandson of the first, who died in the eleventh year of Henry the Sixth. It was founded about the nineteenth year of Richard the Second, by Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and Earl Marshal of England, who was afterwards Duke of Norfolk. The yearly revenues of this priory at the dissolution were, according to Dugdale, 237l. 15s. 2d. The site of it was granted, in the thirty-second of Henry the Eighth, to Mr. John Candish, who, Leland observes, in his time had turned "the monasterie to a goodly manor place." It went by the name of "*the Priory in the Wood*;" or, "the house of the visitation of the Blessed Virgin, near Eppworth, in the isle of Axholm."

EPWORTH

Is a long straggling town, the living of which is a rectory, and was held by the pious divine, Samuel *Wesley*, father of the celebrated leaders

* Henry the Second, so called with respect to his son, who was in rebellion against his father.

† Leland's Itin. Vol. I. fol. 40 and 41.

leaders of the Arminian Methodists, *John and Charles Wesley*. The trade of this place, which is not very considerable, is chiefly the manufacture of sacking and bagging; for which there is one large factory, and several others of less note. A great quantity of hemp and flax is grown in this part of the county; and the poor are chiefly employed in spinning it. Here is a market on Thursdays, and two annual fairs. Quantities of large oaks, with acorns, fir, and other kinds of trees, some of which appear to have been burnt, and others cut down, are frequently found at the depth of three feet beneath the surface in this neighbourhood. In the Gentleman's Magazine for May, 1749, it is stated, "that at *Crowle*, on the river Dune, was found the body of a woman standing upright in a peat moss, and two ancient shoes." About three miles from Epworth is *Temple Belwood*, the seat of William Johnson, Esq.

At *Hirst* was a cell of black canons of St. Austin annexed to Nostell Abbey, in the county of York, valued at 5l. 10s. Here is a seat of Cornelius Stevin, Esq.

At AUKBOROUGH Dr. Stukeley places the AQUIS of Ravenas, having discovered a Roman castrum and a vicinal road. "The Roman castle is square, 300 feet each side, the entrance north, the west side is objected to the steep cliff hanging over the Trent, which here falls into the Humber; for this castle is very conveniently placed in the north-west angle of Lincolnshire, as a watch tower over all Nottingham and Yorkshire, which it surveys. I am told the camp is now called *Countess Close*, and they say a Countess of Warwick lived there, perhaps owned the estate; but there are no marks of building, nor I believe ever were. The vallum and ditch are very perfect. Before the north entrance is a square plot, called *the Green*, where I suppose the Roman soldiers lay *pro castris*. In it is a round work, formed into a labyrinth, which they call *Julian's Bower* *." The places which go by this name, are generally discovered near Roman towns.

* Itinerarium Curiosum, p. 91.

towns. They are circular works, made of banks of earth, in the form of a maze, or labyrinth; the common people indulge an idea, that they are extraordinary things; and boys often divert themselves by running, in their various windings and turnings, through and back again. The doctor thinks it was one of the old Roman games, which were brought into Italy from Troy; and that it took the latter name, not from *bower*, an harbour, but from *borough*, any work consisting of earth ramparts; and the former from *Julus*, the son of Æneas, who introduced it into Italy, according to the account of Virgil, in his fifth Æneid. That the intent of it was to exercise their youth in military activity; and that it was also a practice of the ancient Britons, which they derived from their Phrygian descent.

A mile to the south of *Winteringham*, at WINTERTON, where the Roman road disappears, Stukeley asserts, was the station AD ABUM *. “Upon a rising ground at the end of the road, a little to the right, and half a mile east of the present *Winteringham*, stood the old Roman town, of which they (the people) have a perfect knowledge, and ploughed up great foundations within memory; ’tis now a common, skirted by the marshes of the Humber. The city was plowed up six years ago, and great numbers of antiquities found, now lost; great pavements, chimney-stones, &c. often breaking their plows: in several places they found streets made of sea sand and gravel. The old haven mouth is called *Flashmire*. This place is over against *Brough*, the Roman town on the Yorkshire shore †.” Winterton has a corporation, but is a place of little trade. It contains 174 houses, and 773 inhabitants.

In Winterton Great Corn Fields, near *Roxby*, by ploughing, were discovered, in the year 1747, three curious *tessellated pavements*, which have been destroyed. The Society of Antiquaries, in 1750, had them engraved. One of them was thirty feet in length,
by

* Horsley says, that the ancient name of the Humber was *Abus*.

† *Ann. Curios.* p. 90.

by nineteen feet broad, and was supposed to have been the floor of a dining-room. It had, in the centre, a figure of Orpheus playing on his harp, surrounded by beasts; at the corners four-handled wine vessels, for libations. In the centre of another, which was forty-four feet by fifteen, was the figure of Ceres, holding in her hands ears of corn: and on a third, which was the least perfect, was the figure of a stag, in a bounding attitude. At the same time and place were dug up quantities of Roman bricks and tiles, but no coins; and a large brazen eagle, probably a military standard.

At ROXBY, near the church, was found a *tessellated pavement*, composed of red, blue, and white tessellæ, "six or seven yards long, by more wide," with ox bones, pieces of red and yellow plaister, and large stones. At APPLEBY is a rampart, called *Julian's Bower*. At HIBBALDSTOW are the foundations of Roman buildings, where numerous tiles, coins, and other fragments of antiquity have been found. Similar remains have been discovered at *Broughton**, where is a tumulus, or barrow; and near it is a petrifying spring, where fossil fish have been dug up. At SANDTON are barrows, and a Roman pottery was found there; and between Scalby and Manton is an ancient encampment. Indeed, along the whole of this part of the line of the *Ermin Street*, numerous remains of the Romans have been discovered at different periods. Not far distant from Broughton are the ruins of
THORNEHAM,

* At, or near this place, Horsley is disposed to fix the station named PRÆTORIUM. Some copies having against this station XXII. for XXV. which he considers answers very well to the distance between this place and *Wighton*, in the county of York, where he fixes the DELGOVITIA of Antoninus. "And both *Prætorium*, in the Itinerary, and *Præsidium*, suit so well the present name of Broughton, as to leave some doubt with me whether both of them might not be fixed at this place, upon a supposition either of a change in the name, or that the latter station might have risen out of the former." *Britannia Romana*, p. 407.

THORNEHAM, or THORNHOLM PRIORY, which was founded, for canons of the order of St. Austin, by King Stephen, and endowed, at the suppression, with 155l. 19s. 6d. annual income, according to Speed. It was granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Charles, Duke of Suffolk.

YARBOROUGH WAPENTAKE contains these parishes and townships:—East division; *Croxton, Habrough, Halton East, Immingham, Keelby, Killingholme North, Killingholme South, Kirmington, Limber Magna, Limber Parva, cum Brocklesby, Riby, Stallingborough*^x. South division; *Barnetby le Wold, Bigby, Cadney with Housham, Castor, Clixby, Glandford Brigg* township, *Grassby, Kelsey North, Melton Ross, Nettleton, Scerby with Owmbly, Summerby, Wrawby cum Brigg*. North division; *Barrow, Barton St. Mary's, Barton St. Peter's, Bonby, Elsham, Ferriby, Goxhill, Horkstow, Saxby, Thornton-Curtis, Ulceby, Wootton, and Worlaby*.

GLANFORD BRIDGE, OR BRIGG,

As usually called, is a small market town, on the banks of the *Ancholme* river, over which is a strong stone bridge. Here was an *hospital*, founded by the predecessors of Ralph Paynel, and, as Tamer thinks, by Adam Paynel, in the time of King John. It was subordinate to the abbey of Selby, in Yorkshire; a monk of which house was always the master.

At *Elsham*, adjoining, was an *hospital* for several poor brethren, begun by Beatrix de Amundevill, which her son completed, and committed to the care of a friar, and regular canons of the Augustin order, previous to the year 1166. About the year 1180, the knight's hospitalers made some pretensions to it,

but

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but were obliged to abandon their claim. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edmund; and a little before the suppression it had five canons, when its possessions were valued, according to Dugdale, at 70l. 0s. 8d. The site was granted to Charles, Duke of Suffolk. To the south was *Novus Locus*, or *Newsted-on-Ancholme*, a *Gilbertine Priory*. King Henry the Second gave to St. Gilbert, and the canons of Sempringham, an island called *Rucholm*, within the bounds of *Cadney*, thereon to found a priory of their order, which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and endowed, at the dissolution, with 38l. 13s. 5d. according to Dugdale. The site was granted to Sir Robert Henneage.

Neus, or *Newhouse*, the first *Premoustratensian* abbey in England, was built by *Peter de Gousla*, or *Gousel*, A. D. 1143, according to the "Mailross Chronicle;" but according to the "*Monasticon Anglicanum*," A. D. 1146, to the honour of St. Mary and *St. Martial*. At the dissolution it had an abbot and eleven canons, who were possessed of an annual revenue of 114l. 1s. 4d. It was then given, by Henry the Eighth, to Charles, Duke of Suffolk.

WORLABY gave the title of Baron to Lord John Belasyse, who had that honour conferred on him by King Charles the First, for his loyalty and attachment. But his son, Lord Harry, being attainted of the popish plot, in the time of James the Second, was confined some years in the Tower of London, where he died, 1668. The title is extinct; and the estates have descended to Sir John Webb, Bart. of Candford Magna, in the county of Dorset. The old seat, Gough says, still remains; over the door of which is the motto, "*Bonne & Belle assez*." In the east window of the chancel was some handsome *stained glass*, representing the descent from the cross; but it has unfortunately been mutilated by a ruthless glazier.

At HORKSTOW have been found many Roman remains. These consisted chiefly of *tessellated pavements* and foundations.

Mr. S. Lysons has published some plates, with descriptions of them, in the first number of a work entitled *Reliquiæ Romanæ*.

BARTON UPON HUMBER,

A market town, pleasantly situated on the southern side of the river Humber, about three quarters of a mile from its banks, is a place of high antiquity. It was once surrounded by a rampart and foss, the remains of which are yet visible in what are called *the Castle Dikes*. This place was probably otherwise fortified against the irruptions of the Saxons and Danes, who, in their predatory visits, often laid waste the country on both sides the river. Of its consequence at that period, nothing can be collected, but from tradition. At the time of the conquest it is stated to have been a place of some importance, and a principal port on the river Humber. It was then a corporate town, and, till the erection of Kingston-upon-Hull, by Edward the First, carried on a considerable trade. When Edward the Third issued mandates to raise a force for the invasion of France, Barton furnished, according to one account, three ships and thirty men; and, to another, five ships and ninety-one men: while some of the present sea-ports on the eastern coast were even not mentioned.

The manor belongs to the crown. A court-leet is held half-yearly, for the cognizance of offences committed within the town; and a court-baron every three weeks, for the recovery of small debts. Though there is but one parish, there are two large churches. The mother church, dedicated to St. Peter, appears, from the tower, to have been built about the time of the Conqueror; but the body of the church was rebuilt after the introduction of the pointed arch. It consists of a nave and two ailes. In the window of the chancel are two figures in stained glass; the one habited as a pilgrim, said to be an effigy of the famous warrior, Lord Beaumont, to whom the manor was granted by King Henry the Second.

St.

St. Mary's church, considered a chapel of ease to that of St. Peter, is evidently a more modern building, and is very spacious. These being repaired by separate districts, has probably given rise to the idea, that the town contains two parishes. Barton is an improving place, and carries on a considerable trade in corn, having several flour mills in the vicinity, and others for the manufactory of Paris whiting, and French barley. But it is principally noted for being the place where the great northern road passes the Humber to Hull; and the great improvement which has been made in the ferry, and the additional accommodations made for travellers, within these few years, have rendered it a great thoroughfare. A neat packet-boat for passengers, and another for carriages, cross and recross the river every day. The town has a well supplied weekly market on Mondays, and another for fat cattle once a fortnight. Its annual fair is held the Thursday after Trinity. According to the returns under the late act, the number of houses was 412, and of inhabitants 1709. About two miles to the east of this town is

BARROW, a large, but irregularly built village. It was formerly the seat of the ancient and celebrated family of *Tirwhit*, of Cornwall. About a mile north-west of it, in a marsh, stands a large earth work, called the *Castle*, which, tradition says, was erected by *Humber*, when he invaded Britain, in the time of the Trojan Brutus. Stukeley says, "it is dissonant from any thing I ever saw;" and, after a minute investigation, considers it to be "an *alate temple*" of the Britons, and places it in the third class of his "*druidical buildings*." Having thus decided on its origin, he gives an account of what he conceived to have been its form, and describes the dimensions. Its features, however, are more of a military than a religious kind; and it was probably an entrenched camp of the Britons, who, in many instances, preferred such inundated situations. Adjacent to the foundations are several tumuli, or long barrows. In some, on the north side, which have been opened, were found human bones, ashes, urns, &c.

At CROXHILL, generally misnamed *Gokewell* and *Goxhill*, was a priory for Cistercian nuns, founded by William de Alta Ripa, before the year 1185. A little to the south are the noble ruins of THORNTON ABBEY, which was founded by William le Grass, Earl of Albemarle, and Lord of Holderness, A. D. 1139, for black canons. Dugdale informs us, that when first founded it was a priory, and the monks, with Richard their prior, were introduced from the monastery of Kirkham; but was changed into an abbey, and Richard made abbot, by Pope Eugenius the Third, A. D. 1148. The founder died about the year 1180, and was supposed to have been interred within the walls. King Henry the Eighth, his Queen, and attendants, were splendidly entertained, in a visit they made the abbot in the year 1541. At the dissolution, when the revenues were valued at 730*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* according to Speed, the King appears not to have been unmindful of the flattering attentions he had received; for though he suppressed the abbey, he reserved the greater part of the lands to endow a *college*, which he erected in its room, for a dean and prebendaries, to the honour of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. This was a large establishment, for after the dissolution of it, A. D. 1553, in the sixth year of Edward the Sixth, it is asserted by Willis, that nineteen members received pensions. At that time it was granted, in exchange, to the Bishop of Lincoln.

From the remains, it must have been a magnificent building. Originally it consisted of an extensive square, surrounded by a deep ditch, with high ramparts, and built in a style adapted for occasional defence. The gate-house, which formed the western entrance, is yet tolerably entire. The entrance-road is flanked with brick walls, having loop-hole arches, supporting a broad battlement, and terminating in two round towers, between which was formerly a draw-bridge. The grand entrance arch is still perfect; over it is a parapet, four feet broad, and opening into a cell, probably the porter's lodge. The front has been richly ornamented with cornices, niches, and statues. There is a groove for a portcullis, and parts of the great wooden doors are still pendant

pendant on their massy hinges. The roof is finely groined, the ribs of which are supported by elegant brackets, enriched with flowers and figures. Over the gateway are two rooms, and four handsome hexagonal towers form the four angles. A winding staircase opens into a spacious apartment, probably the refectory. The brackets which supported the ceilings are half length human figures, so distorted in their countenances, as if represented in purgatory. On the east side of the refectory is another room, with recesses in both sides. To the east of the gateway, are the remains of the *abbey church*. The chapter house, part of which is standing, was of an octangular shape, and highly decorated, having round it, under its handsome windows, an arcade, consisting of pointed arches, with cinquefoiled heads, and in the centre of each an ornamented trefoil pendent drop. The abbot's lodge, which stood to the south, is occupied as a farm-house. The site of this abbey belonged some years to the family of Sutton, but is now the property of George Uppleby, Esq.

On a high ridge of the downs, west of Thornton, is YARBOROUGH CAMP; a large entrenchment, said to be of Roman origin. From its lofty situation very extensive views are obtained, particularly to the east. Vast quantities of Roman coins have been found here, among which were some of the Emperor *Licinius*. East of this is

BROCKLESBY PARK, the seat of Lord Yarborough. The house is not remarkable for its architecture, but his lordship has recently made many additions and alterations to the building and park; among which is an elegant *Picture Gallery*, from designs by C. H. Tatnam, Esq. a gentleman who has distinguished himself both in architecture and in some scientific works on the subject. The length of the gallery, which was finished in 1807, is sixty-three feet, the breadth forty-eight, by twenty feet high. The ceiling is very elegant, being enriched with antique vases. That compartment appropriated to the cabinet pictures, has an arched

X x 3

ceiling,

ceiling, highly ornamented. The gallery contains a fine collection of paintings, which were bequeathed to Lord Yarborough by the late Mr. Aufere, of Chelsea, near London. A few years since his lordship erected in the park an elegant *Chapel* and *Mausoleum*, which was begun under the direction of James Wyatt, Esq. in the year 1787; and completed in the year 1794. The elevation on which it stands is a tumulus, once a place of Roman sepulture, as appears from the sepulchral urns that have been discovered here: these contained burnt bones and ashes; also rings, combs, and small perforated stones. The chapel, which was consecrated by Bishop Prettyman, in June 1794, is an elegant circular building, having fluted Doric columns, supporting a rich entablature, and surmounted by a dome, which is surrounded by an open ballustrade, &c. The interior is divided into four compartments, by eight fluted columns of the Corinthian order, supporting a highly decorated and lofty dome. Beneath the chapel is a vault, with compartments and recesses for depositing coffins. This is divided also by pillars, and has a circular sarcophagus in the centre. The whole, which displays much elegance and taste, is highly ornamental to the park, which is extensive, and diversified by numerous plantations and swelling grounds.

CASTOR,

CAISTOR, or THONG-CASTOR, according to Camden, who follows some old chronologists, was called by the Britons *Caer-Egarry*, and by the Saxons Thong-Castor. The latter name, it is said, to have derived from a circumstance that occurred in the time of Hengist. This Saxon general, after defeating the Scots and Picts, obtained from Vortigern very extensive possessions in other parts of the island, and was granted as much land at this place as he could encompass with the hide, or skin, of an ox. This being cut into small strips, or thongs, extended round a large plot of ground, on which he built a fortified mansion, since called

*Thong-
Castor. Thoma Bungi - 276 - Ech. 487 - 192*

Thong-Castle. Of Byrsa, a famous citadel of Carthage, a similar story is related; and other parallel traditions are told of Thong-Castle, near Sittingbourne, in Kent. Whence the author of the History of England, in Latin heroic verse, has thus parodied the allusion in Virgil:—

“Accepitque solum facti de nomine *Thongun*,
Taurino quantum poterat circundare tergo.”

“He had the spot called from the story *Thong*,
What a bull's hide inclosed when laid along.”

The British name of *Caer* affixed to a place, always refers to a British or Roman fortress. Its present name is from the Roman *Castrum*, and a Roman road goes from this place in a south easterly direction, passing a station at *Ludford*, towards *Horncastle*.—“There can be no doubt that this castle was built long before Hengist's time; for I saw enough of the old *Roman wall* to evince its founders. One great piece stands on the virge of the churchyard, another by a house. There are more behind the school-house in the pastures, and I have met with many men that have dug at its foundations in several places. It is built of white rag-stone, laid sometimes side-ways, sometimes flat, in mortar, exceedingly hard, full of pebbles and sand; nor is it mixed to any fineness, so that I conjecture they used to pour the mortar on liquid, as soon as the lime was slaked*.” This, which was called *boiling mortar*, with the herring bone manner of laying some of the stones, is peculiarly characteristic of the Roman mode of building.

The soil hereabouts abounds with springs, one of which, called *Syfer*†, is very peculiar. Its waters flow in four directions, be-

X x 4

tween

* Stukeley's Itin. p. 96.

† Stukeley derives the name from the *Saxon* word *Syfer*, which he says means, “pure, clean, as the stream here deserves to be called.” Is it not more probable, on the doctor's own hypothesis, of its having been a Roman British city, that it comes from the *British* word *sygyr*, pronounced *syfer*, which signifies hard, and is descriptive of this water.

tween the joints of large stones, which are laid flat like a wall, and are connected together by rivets of lead. At Castle-hill many bodies have been dug up, and a stone, of irregular or mutilated shape, with an inscription, which the late Mr. Bradley, of Lincoln, read—*Cruci spoliū, quod Egbert rex in honorem*.—This is supposed to have been inscribed in honour, and as a memorial of the victory obtained by Egbert near this place, over Wiglof, king of Mercia, A. D. 827. Castor has a small weekly market, on Saturdays, and three annual fairs. By the returns made under the act for taking an account of the population of the kingdom, the number of houses was 193, of inhabitants 861. A ceremony, respecting a peculiar *tenure**, not mentioned by Camden, or Blount, takes place at Castor church every Palm Sunday.—A person enters the church-yard with a green silk purse, containing two shillings, and a silver penny tied at the end of a cart-whip, which he cracks three times in the porch, and continues there till the second lesson begins; when he goes into the church, and cracks the whip again three times over the clergyman's head. After kneeling before the desk during the reading of the lesson, he presents the minister with the purse, and then returning to the choir, he waits the remainder of the service. Mr. Gough thinks, that two shillings are probably substituted for *twenty-four pence*, as the tenure appears to have been antecedent to the coinage of shillings; "which," he observes, "were not common till the reign of Edward the Sixth."

BRADLEY HAVERSTOE WAPENTAKE contains the following parishes:—*Ashby cum Fenby, Aylesby, Barnoldby-le-Beck, Beelsby, Beesby, Haverby and Cadeby, Bradley, Brigstey, Caboun, Clee, Cleethorpe township, Coates Great, Coates Little, Coates north, Cuxwold, Fulston, Grainsby, Grimsby Great, Hatcliffe, Healing, Holton le Clay, Humberstone, Irby, Laceby,*

* The lands held by this, are situated in the parish of Broughton.

Laceby^x, Marsh Chapel, Ravendale East, Ravendale West, Rothwell, Seartho', Swallow, Swinhope, Tetney, Thoresby North, Waith, Waltham, and Wold Newton.

GRIMSBY, OR GREAT GRIMSBY,

So called to distinguish it from a village of the same name, is a borough, market, and sea-port town, which formerly possessed a considerable share of foreign commerce, and was distinguished for its internal trade. The town still enjoys many immunities, has a weekly market on Wednesdays, and an annual fair on St. Bartholomew's day. It also sends two members to parliament. Of its origin and ancient history much has been written. The story, that it was founded by a merchant named Gryme, who obtained great riches in consequence of having brought up an exposed child, called *Haveloc*, who proved to be of royal Danish blood, and, from being scullion in the King's kitchen, had the honour to marry the King's daughter, is ridiculed by Camden, and placed among old wives' fables. The corporation seal, which appears to be very ancient, however, emblematically gives countenance to such a story, whether fictitious or true. Holles supposes this town was founded by a Norwegian pirate; and Macpherson observes, "Grimsby is noted by the Norwegian, or Islandic writers, as an emporium, resorted to by merchants from Norway, Scotland, Orkney, and the Western Islands*."

The town is governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, and thirty-six burgesses. The mayor and bailiffs hold separate courts; the former on Tuesday, the latter on Friday. The first charter was granted in the reign of King John. It was once rich and populous, and carried on considerable trade. In the reign of Edward the Third, Grimsby furnished eleven ships, and one hundred and seventy mariners, to assist at the siege of Calais. But the trade afterwards forsook it, and the harbour became

* Annals of Commerce, Vol. I. p. 391.

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became nearly choaked with sand. Formerly it was fortified with two blockhouses, of which no traces remain. The spirit of the place has of late revived. The harbour has been improved, and a dock constructed at a great expence, by which means the trade of the port has been increased, and the town extended by many additional buildings. In the town were formerly two churches, that of St. Mary's, which was an handsome building, and its steeple a good land mark for mariners, has been long since taken down. *St. James's church* is a spacious structure, built in the form of a cross, with a tower in the centre. Originally it was of greater extent, a part of the choir having fallen down about the year 1600. The steeple is a beautiful specimen of English pointed architecture, and appears to have suffered less from the depredations of time than other parts of the church. The alterations it has undergone at different periods by no means correspond with the style of the original building. In the upper part of the steeple is this inscription, "Pray for the soule of *John Empringham*." This person was eminent, according to Gervas Holles *. This gentleman was born here in the reign of Henry the Fourth, and was a considerable benefactor to the church. The large west window had figures of the Kings of Judah branching off from the stem of Jesse. In the church are many ancient monuments and inscribed stones, some of which appear to have been removed from the three monasteries that were formerly in the town.

Beside a monastery of gray friars, and a convent of benedictine nuns, Grimsby had a priory of Augustine canons, founded by King Henry the First, who liberally endowed, and conferred on it several privileges. These, his son, Henry the Second, confirmed, and further granted, that the monks should enjoy their lands and rentals free from all exactions and secular services; a proof of the power and influence of the religious orders during that period of our history.

Stow

* He has given a minute description of the monuments and armorial bearings painted in the several windows in this church, among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum.

Stow relates, that JOHN WALSH, a native of this place, being accused of high treason by a gentleman of Navarre, did, on St. Andrew's day, in the eighth year of King Richard the Second, A. D. 1385, enter the lists to combat with the "Navarois, named Martileto de Vilenos," that he might, according to the custom of the times, refute the charge, by obtaining the victory over his antagonist; which having gained, his traducer was hanged for false accusation.

The brightest ornament of this place was that eminently distinguished prelate, Dr. JOHN WHITGIFT, *Archbishop of Canterbury*. He received his education in the university of Cambridge, where he became master of Trinity College, and regius professor of divinity. He was first promoted to the see of Worcester, and thence translated to the metropolitan see of Canterbury. A lover of order, he became a zealous assertor of the doctrines and discipline of the established church, against the violent advocate of the puritans, *Cartwright*, who, with his followers, were encouraged and supported in their opposition by numerous friends at court. Whitgift, however, conducted the controversy with so much wisdom, moderation, and piety, that he overcame and won over many of his adversaries, though he could not convince those obstinate enemies, who would be satisfied with nothing, except the overthrow of the constitution, and destruction of the hierarchy. This prelate was born in the year 1530, and died February 29th, A. D. 1603. About two miles from Great Grimsby is the small village of

CLEE, which has a very ancient church, consisting of a nave, with north and south ailes, separated from the former by round massy columns. These support semicircular arches, variously ornamented with zigzag, cable, and billet mouldings. In this church is a curious *font*, formed of two cylindrical parts, one placed upon the other; over which, in the shaft of the circular column, is inlaid a small piece of marble, with a Latin inscription in Saxon characters, referring to the time of King Richard, and stating that

that it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity and St. Mary, by Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln. The date, A. D. 1192.

In the vicinity of this place are many of those extraordinary fountains, called BLOW-WELLS. These are deep circular pits, which furnish a continued flow of water in a considerable stream. They are vulgarly supposed unfathomable; but Mr. Young says, "Sir Joseph Banks found the bottom without difficulty*." At a small distance from Clec is

CLEETHORPE, a township, which is inhabited by a few fishermen only in the winter, but in the summer season is much resorted to for sea-bathing. Persons visiting it for that purpose will find an excellent hotel for their accommodation.

LUDBOROUGH WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of, *Brackenborough, Covenham St. Bartholomew, Covenham St. Mary, Fotherby, Grimsby Little, Ludborough, Ormsby North, Utterby, and Wyham cum Cadeby.*

At COVENHAM, William Carileph, Bishop of Durham, founded a benedictine *priory* about the year 1082, and made it a cell to Durham; but afterwards, in the thirtieth year of Edward the First, it was given to Kirksted abbey. No remains of this priory are at present left.

WALSHCROFT WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of, *Claxby, Holton le Moor, Kelsey South, Kingcby, Newton, Normanby on the Wold, Osgodby with Kirkby, Owersby North End, Owersby South End, Rasin West, Thornton le Moor, Toft, Usselby.—Binbrooke St. Gabriel, Binbrooke St. Mary, Croxby,*

* General View, p. 15.

Croxby, Linwood, Rasin Market, Rasin Middle, Tapholm and *Drax*.
~~Duck~~, Stainton le Hole, or Stainton Vale, Tealby, Thoresway,
 Thorganby, Wallsby, and Willingham North.

MARKET RASIN,

A small town, so called from lying upon the *Rasin*, a stream which flows into the river *Ancholme*, and having on Tuesdays a well frequented *market*. The only thing here calculated to excite notice is the peculiar form of the upper windows in the embattled tower of the church. They have a pointed arch, divided into two pointed lights, and a quaterfoil head. Up the centre goes a strong mullion, crossed by a transom, terminating at the imposts. These are similar to those of Yarborough church, near Louth. Both were erected, it is probable, at the same period; for on the south side of the tower of each is a representation of our first parents on the branches of a fruit tree, on the trunk of which is the dart of death, allusive to the effects of eating the forbidden fruit. The living is a vicarage, in the gift of the crown; and in the endowment, the vicar is entitled to the unusual *tythe of ale*.

In the town is a Roman Catholic chapel, a Methodist meeting house, a small free school, and an hospital for four poor men.

The church of St. Peter, in MIDDLE RASIN, an adjoining village, is small, but has a curious entrance porch, with zigzag, nailhead, and other mouldings. The chancel is separated from the nave by elegant screen work, beneath a pointed arch, supported by Norman circular pillars, which was probably coeval with the doorway. The nave appears to have had side aisles, as the pillars and pointed arches stand in relief from the present wall. This place is divided into two parishes, called *Drax* and *Tapholm*. The latter had an *abbey of premonstratensian* canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, founded by *Alan de Neville*, and
 his

his brother Gilbert, in the time of Henry the Second; in which, at the dissolution, were nine monks, who, according to Speed, had the annual income of 119l. 2s. 8d. The site was granted to Sir Thomas Hemeage.

To the church of St. Peter, called Topholme, in Middle Rasin, Gilbert de Bland, of that place, gave, among other donations, one part of his meadow in Lissingley. This, which contains between five and six hundred acres of very wet land, was once, according to tradition, a park belonging to Sir John Burlingthorpe, and granted him by royal favour. This is said to have been conferred as a reward for his courage and prowess, in attacking and slaying a dragon which infested the neighbourhood. A similar story is related of Sir Hugh Bardolph, who is said to have slain another at Walmsgate. These *Draconcides*, or *dragon-slayers*, were men who, by their skill or liberality, carried on works of drainage, and other improvements in their respective neighbourhoods, by which the floods and tides being prevented from continually inundating the lands, the head of these *hydra monsters* were cut off, and prevented from again terrifying people by their ominous and unwelcome appearance. Near Rasin is

WILLINGHAM HOUSE, the seat of *Ayscough Boucherett, Esq.* member of parliament for Great Grimsby. It is an elegant mansion, situated on the south-west side of the wolds, and was erected in the year 1790. It stands about two miles west of the site of an old mansion.

THURGUNBY, an ancient seat of the Willoughbys, is now the residence of *Lord Middleton*. Situated on an eminence, the house commands a view over the vale, to Swinhop. Some fine old timber gives this place a sylvan feature, which is rarely seen on the *Wolds*. The grounds behind the house are finely varied, and the declivous sides terminate in a narrow vale, through which runs a small trout-stream.

LOUTH

LOUTH ESKE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Alvingham, Carlton Castle, Carlton Great, Carlton Little, Conisholme, Grainthorpe cum Ludney and Wragholme, Grimoldby, Manby, Reston North, Saltfleetby All Saints, Saltfleetby St. Clement's, Saltfleetby St. Peter's, Skidbrook with Saltfleet Haven, Somercotes North, Somercotes South, Yarborough.*—*Authorpe, Burwell, Calcethorpe, Cockerington St. Leonard, Cockerington St. Mary, Elkington North, Elkington South, Farforth with Maiden Well, Gayton le Wold, Hallington, Haugham, Keddington, Kelsterne, Louth, Louth Park, Muckton, Raithby with Maltby, Ruckland, Stewton, Tathwell, Wetton le Wold, Withcall, and Wykeham.* The principal place in, and which gives name to the wapentake, is

LOUTH,

Anciently called *Luda*, from the situation on the *Lud*, a small rivulet, formed by the confluence of two streams, is a large well built town, in a fertile valley, at the eastern foot of the *Wolds*. The valley, which runs east and west, is sheltered on the north and south by sloping hills of indurated chalk, whose horizontal strata are principally covered with an argillaceous soil for several inches deep. Towards the west the rising grounds afford numerous and varied prospects. The scenery of the *Wolds* is highly diversified with hill and dale, and the interesting effects which arise from wild irregularity; but being generally devoid of wood, the features are not so intricate and picturesque as the more mountainous or woody parts of the island. To the east is a level, wooded country, which is agreeably interspersed with villages, churches, and mansions.

Respecting this place history is nearly silent. In the rebellion of the year 1536, occasioned by the suppression of religious houses, the inhabitants of Louth, under Dr. Mackerel, *alias Captain Cobler*, the prior of Barling's abbey, took part in the
insurrection.

insurrection. This person, with the vicar of Louth, and thirteen other ringleaders, were afterwards put to death.

In this place were established three religious fraternities, called "*The Guild of our Blessed Lady, the Guild of the Holy Trinity, and the Chantry of John of Louth.*" In the time of Edward the Sixth, the funds which had been conferred on these guilds were alienated, and granted for the purpose of erecting and endowing a *free grammar school*. The lands then brought 40l. per annum, but are now let for 400l. One half was granted for a head master's salary, one-fourth for the usher's, and the remainder was to be appropriated for the maintenance of twelve poor women, in perpetual succession. The trustees of this foundation were incorporated by the name of "The warden, and six assistants, of the town of Louth, and free school of King Edward the Sixth, in Louth." The common seal*, yet used by this corporate body, is a curious specimen of the uncouth ideas of the time. It exhibits a man exercising the birch upon the posteriors of a suppliant youth, while other scholars are shewn at their forms. The motto:—QVI PARCIT VIRGE ODIT FILIV. 1552.

In this town is another *free-school* for poor boys, founded in pursuance of the Will of the late Dr. Mapletost, Dean of Ely, bearing date August the 17th, 1677. It is on a very respectable scale, and the annual salary of the master is forty guineas.

The *church* of St. James is a large, handsome structure, and consists of a nave, two aisles, with an elegant tower and spire at the west end. The east end, which presents a fine elevation, exhibits a large central window, having six upright mullions and varied tracery, with two lateral windows opening into the aisles. These are separated by two well proportioned buttresses, ornamented by canopied niches; in the gable battlements are quatrefoils with crockets, and the angular point supports a fleury cross. The nave and aisles are embattled, and have numerous crocketed pinnacles. Internally the nave is separated from the aisles by octagonal

* This is engraved with a plan of the town, and published by Mr. Jackson, of Louth.



Engraved by H. Le Keux from a drawing by T. E. Jones of Lincoln for the Beauties of England & Wales

SOUTH STEEPLE &c.
 from the S.E.
 Lincolnshire.

London, Published by F. and J. Hood & Sharps, Printers, Sep. 1. 1829

gonal columns, the alternate sides of which are relieved by single flutes. The capitals are plain, and the pointed arches are formed by arcs of circles, whose centres are the opposite imposts. The ceiling rests upon corbels, composed of grotesque heads. The chancel, which has an altar piece, containing a picture of the descent from the cross, painted by Williams, is of more modern date than the body of the church, and probably is coeval with the justly admired *steeple*. The latter, which is the most elegant part of the building, was begun, as appears from a manuscript still extant, under the direction of *John Cole*, a master mason, or architect, in the year 1501, who conducted the work about four years. After that time it went progressively on under the management of Lawrence and William Lemyng, with Christopher Scune. The whole of this stately edifice was completed in fifteen years, for the sum of 305l. 7s. 5d. The height of the spire was originally 360 feet: but the flat stone on the summit was blown off in the year 1587, and carried with it part of the building into the body of the church. The damage was repaired the following year, at the expence of 30l. The whole spire was blown down on the 11th of October, 1634, and the present one erected, under the direction of *Thomas Turner*, whose charge amounted only to the sum of 81l. 7s. The extra expences were 54l. 2s. 9d. making together 135l. 9s. 9d. The top stone has on its north and north-eastern sides *Tho. Turner*, and on the eastern side the date 1635. The tower part of the steeple consists of three stories, the second of which has two mullioned windows, with tracery, in every front. In the third story, or tier, are two more highly ornamented windows in each face, and surmounted by crocketed canopies, in bold relief. The angles of the tower are supported by buttresses, which contract as they advance in height, still preserving the finest proportion. Each stage terminates with elegant pediments, supported by ornamental corbels; in this manner diminishing to the top, where are octagonal, embattled turrets, thirty feet high, whence issue four pinnacles, the angles of which are adorned with crockets, and end with finials.

At eighty feet from the base, round the exterior of the tower, runs a gallery, guarded by a parapet wall; and at the height of one hundred and seventy feet the battlements commence, which are pierced with embrasures, and separated by the pedestals of three small pinnacles on each side. The octangular centre spire, in four of its sides, is connected to the corner turrets by spandrels or flying buttresses of excellent workmanship. In those faces answering the cardinal points are small pointed windows, and the corners of the spire are enriched with crockets, which contribute to its decorated appearance. The top stone projects with a cornice, and the height of the spire to the cross is one hundred and forty-one feet. The total height of the whole is two hundred and eighty-eight feet. The masonry of the tower and spire is often admired for its execution. The living of St. James's parish is a vicarage, in the gift of a prebendary of Lincoln cathedral, to which it was annexed by the conqueror.

The vicarage house, which stands contiguous to the church-yard, is an old *thatched building*, and the present vicar has, in unison with its appearance, laid out his garden in a curious style of ingenious *rusticity*; it is denominated the *hermitage*. Interspersed among planted walks are several small buildings, and seats, formed of old timbers, branches of trees, with bark, &c. The floors are paved with pebbles, flints, and other substances. The various cloisters, pavilions, cots, obelisks and vases, inscribed with appropriate mottoes, and accompanied by numerous devices, are for the use of the supposed hermit. The singularity of this spot, the style in which it has been fitted up, and the attention manifested by its possessor, in preserving it in appropriate and pleasant order, conspire to attract the attention, and excite the admiration, of all persons who have an opportunity to view the scene.

Here was formerly another church named *St. Mary's*, which probably belonged to the guild of the blessed virgin; the bells of this church having been valued at the dissolution. It is now totally demolished, but the church-yard is the present place of sepulture for the town; as that of St. James's has not been used for the purpose
for

for nearly forty years past. Besides the church, there are three places of religious worship at Louth for dissenters from the establishment: one for catholics, one for baptists, and another for methodists. When the warden and six assistants were incorporated by Edward the Sixth, in the same charter two weekly markets were granted, one on Wednesdays, and the other on Saturdays, and three annual fairs. The latter were to be held on the third Sunday after Easter, on St. James's day, and the feast of St. Martin; with a particular injunction, that they should continue two whole days after; that the first day of each fair might be appropriated "*to hearing the word of God.*" Queen Elizabeth, in the sixth year of her reign, gave by charter to the corporation the manor of Louth, of which the annual value then was 78*l.* 14*s.* 4½*d.* for the better support of the corporate dignity. King James, in the third year of his reign, constituted the warden and one of the assistants justices of the peace, with an exempt jurisdiction not extending to life and limb; and authority to appoint other proper officers. In the fifth year of the same reign, by another charter, they were empowered to appoint a deputy warden, raise taxes for the good government of the town, and make other bye laws.

The *town-hall* is an old plain building, standing at the end of the principal street leading to the market place. By dividing a part of the street into two narrow lanes, it becomes offensive to the eye and a nuisance to the inhabitants.

The *Assembly-room*, commonly called the mansion-house, with a card-room annexed, forms a suite of elegant apartments, which are fitted up in the Grecian style, with considerable taste.

The *Theatre* is a small but neat building, erected by Mr. Edward Blyth, merchant; to whose public spirit Louth is indebted for several handsome buildings and liberal institutions.

A few years ago a *Carpet* and *Blanket Manufactory* was established here, and is now in a flourishing state. This trade, if it were extended to other towns, would be highly beneficial to Lincolnshire, as it would greatly contribute towards the con-

sumption of coarse wool, the staple commodity of the county. There is also a large manufactory of soap, and a mill for making coarse paper.

An act was obtained in 1761 for cutting a *canal* between Louth and the North Sea. It commences about half a mile from the town, and keeps parallel with the banks of the *Ludd*, which supplies it with water. It leaves the river about four miles from the town, and, by a sweep to the north, joins the sea at a place called *Tetney Lock*. The undertaking cost 12,000*l.* and the concern now pays very good interest. By this channel vessels of considerable burden regularly trade to several parts of Yorkshire, to Hull, and to London: carrying out quantities of corn and wool, and bringing in return, timber, coals, groceries, &c. Hence it has proved highly advantageous to the town and neighbourhood.

The open or common fields of Louth were inclosed by an act of Parliament in 1801. The number of inhabitants appears, by the return under the population act, to be 4,236, and the number of houses 950; but the former have been much increased since that return was made.

In Louth and its vicinity are some geological circumstances well worthy of minute investigation by the philosopher as well as chemist. *Aswell spring* turns a fulling mill only two hundred yards from the source of the stream. *St. Helen's Well* once supplied Louth park Abbey by means of a cut called *Monk's Dyke*. At the foot of the northern hills, several springs issue of a very peculiar nature. *They run rapidly during the summer, but in winter are generally dry.* The method of obtaining water by *overflowing springs* has been of the utmost utility to the lower part of the town, as well as to a great extent of fine marsh-land; which, till this discovery, made a few years since, possessed little else but stagnant water, retained in the adjacent ditches. A stratum of clay, about twenty-seven yards deep, runs in a sloping direction from the wolds to the sea, and extends several miles to the north and south. Beneath this is a stratum of gravel, which forms a grand reservoir of water. The argillaceous stratum being perforated,

forated, and a cavity of three or more inches diameter made, a current rushes up to the surface, down which cavity a tube of tin or copper is then slid, and a perpetual fountain, of inexpressible value formed, at a very inconsiderable expence. These fountains are become general along this part of the coast, and furnish an ample supply of water for an extent of thirty miles in length and ten in breadth; and were it necessary, might be obtained upon the sea shore, as far as low water mark.

About one mile from the town is the site of *Louth Park Abbey**, which was built by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1139. It was appropriated to Cistercian Monks, who were brought from Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire. In the time of Henry the Third, it is related that this house contained sixty-six monks, and 150 *Conversi* †. At the time of the suppression here were only twelve religious persons, and its annual revenues were then valued, according to Dugdale, at 147l. 14s. 6d.

BURWELL, which was once a market town, has a large handsome church with a good tower. A few vestiges of a religious house still remain, which was a priory and cell to St. Mary's *Sylvæ majoris*, and was founded by John de Hay; who endowed it with various lands; from whom was descended Gilbert de Umphraville, Earl of Angus, who lived at Burwell, and had the appointment of the prior, by a claim derived from his ancestor. Near the village is

BURWELL PARK, the seat of *Mathew Bancroft Lister, Esq.*

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who

* From the circumstance of its being built in a park, it usually went by the name of the Monastery *De Parcolude*. Its manuscript minutes are often quoted by Bishop Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, to ascertain the dates of other similar establishments.

† The *Conversi*, in Monasteries, were persons retained to perform all kinds of laborious business in the Abbies and Granges. They were made from *novices*, and learning being expressly forbidden them, they could never become *Monks*. Harleian MSS. 63. B. 10.

who is sole proprietor of the parish. The house is a handsome modern mansion, built about the year 1760, by the father of the present possessor. It is delightfully situated in a well wooded park, which contains about three hundred acres, and is well stocked with deer. SARAH, wife of the celebrated Duke of MARLBOROUGH, who, by the ascendancy she obtained over Queen Anne, is supposed to have had a considerable share of influence in the politics of the day, was born here when the house was occupied by Mathew Lister, Esq. descendent of Sir Mathew Lister. In the vicinity of Burwell is

HAUGHAM, remarkable for a hill called *Skirbeck*, out of the side of which occasionally rushes a torrent of water sufficient to fill a tube of thirty inches in diameter. The stream continues to run for several weeks together from a place, where, at other times, there is not the smallest appearance of a spring. This sudden irruption is observed generally to happen after long and heavy rains, and is a phænomenon not common, but in very mountainous countries.

On a hill near TATHWELL, where is a large mansion belonging to Charles Chaplin, Esq. are six oblong *Barrows*, lying in a line from east to west.

COCKRINGTON was anciently the head of the barony of Scotiney. From Sir Adrian Scrope, or Scroop, Knt. of this place, was descended *Adrian Scrope*, Esq. who was educated at Oxford, and became one of the loyal attendants to Charles the First at Edgell, where he was severely wounded, and left among the dead; but being brought off by his son, was recovered by the immortal Dr. William Harvey; who, while the battle was at its height, was attending the Prince and Duke at a distant station. On the coronation of Charles the Second, A.D. 1661, Scrope was made Knight of the Bath. This person forms a fine contrast to one descended from another branch of the family confounded with him, who, Anthony Wood says, "was Adrian Scrope, Esq.
of

of Warmesley in Oxfordshire; sometime a gentleman commoner of Hart Hall, and afterwards a noted puritan, which made him take up arms for the blessed cause in the beginning of the Presbyterian rebellion; in which being first a captain, he was at length a colonel in a regiment of horse. When King Charles I. was tried for his life by a pack of hell hounds, this person, Adrian Scrope, sat and was one of his judges in that dismal tragedy, and afterwards signed the bloody warrant for severing his head from his body*." For this, after the restoration, he suffered execution, Oct. 19th, 1660. Sir Carr Scrope, the famous poet and satirist, in the time of Charles the Second, was son of Adrian Scrope the loyalist. Near this place, on the opposite side of the Lud, is

ALVINGHAM, famous only for a small monastery of Gilbertine Monks and Nuns, formed by Walter de Bec, whose sister became one of the first Nuns.

WRAGGOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Barkwith East, Barkwith West, Bennivorth^x, Biscathorpe, Brough cum Girsby, ~~Hatton~~^{Haxby}, Hatton, Kirmond le Mire, Langton, Ludford, Panton, Siahills, Sotby, Willingham South. Apley, Bardney, Bullington, Fulnetby, Goltho, Holton^{criss} & Bickering, Legsby, Lissington, Rend, Snelland, ~~Stagfield~~^{Brownfield}, Stainton cum Newball, Torrington East, Torrington West, Tupholme, Wick-enby, and Wragby.*

Near the head of the small river Bain, which empties itself into the Witham, is the village of LUDFORD, by which a roman vicinal road passes from Castor, in a direction southward, and another south-west from this place to Lincoln. Many coins have been dug up here, whence it is conjectured that this must have been a Roman station.

Y y 4

At

* Wood's Athe. Oxon. Vol. II. 167.

Lead: 18. 11. 12

At SIXHILL, was a *Gilbertine Abbey*, founded in the time of King Stephen, by ——— de Grelle, an ancestor of Thomas de la Warre. In the time of King John the various endowments were confirmed to the Nuns and brethren of Sixhill. According to Speed its revenues were valued, at the dissolution, at 178l. 8s. 9d. per annum. In this religious house Edward the First confined Mary the wife of Christopher Seton, and sister of Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, A. D. 1306*. It was granted at the dissolution to Thomas Henneage, Esq. in whose family it still remains; and they have a Roman Catholic Chapel here for themselves and the accommodation of others of the same persuasion. The residence of the Henneages is at HAINTON HALL, which is a very ancient and handsome seat. It stands low, and has been in the family ever since the time of Henry the Third. The present proprietor, *George Robert Henneage, Esq.* has made considerable improvements to his house by the addition of a new wing and by other alterations. The house contains some pictures, and several fine family portraits, particularly one of Sir Thomas Henneage, who was M. P. and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. The village of Hainton has a church with a steeple, which Mr. Gough forgot to include with that of Linwood, when he observed of the latter, “the church has a decent spire, the only one to be seen in the round of fifty-nine parishes hereabouts†.”

GIRSBY, near *Brough*, is a seat of ^{*Gough*} ~~Thomas~~ Lister, Esq. who has lately rebuilt the house, and is making various improvements in the pleasure grounds and adjacent lands.

WRAGBY,

Which is called a village in the *Magna Britannia*, and erroneously said to stand on the river Witham, is a small market town, situated

* Hemingford, p. 224, Edit. Hearne.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 267.

situated eleven miles to the eastward of Lincoln, at the junction of the turnpike roads leading from that city to Louth and Horn-castle. It anciently formed part of the barony of *Trusbut*, from the last male heir of which family it was conveyed to the Manners, Dukes of Rutland; whence by marriage it came to George Villiers Duke of Buckingham, who obtained for the place a charter from Charles the Second, to hold a weekly market on Thursdays, and two annual fairs, which are now well frequented. Of the duke, in the year 1674, it was purchased by Sir Edmund Turnor, of *Stoke Rochford*, who erected and endowed here an almshouse for six clergymen's widows, and six other poor destitute persons. The chapel of this charity was consecrated by Bishop Gardiner, July 18th, 1697. Here is a *free-school* endowed with thirty pounds per annum for the master. It was founded in the year 1633, by William Hansard, Esq. The manor is possessed by Edmund Turnor, Esq. who has a seat in the parish of *Panton*, east of Wragby, called

PANTON HOUSE, which was built by Hawksmoor, a pupil of Sir John Vanbrugh's, in the year 1724. Since that time considerable additions have been made to it, from designs of Mr. Carr, architect at York, and the adjacent country has been greatly improved by ornamental plantations. Among some portraits in the house is one of Sir *Robert Cecil*, K. G. Earl of Salisbury, by Zuccherro, and one of Sir *Cristopher Turnor*, a baron of the Exchequer, by Lely. Two miles north of Wragby is

HALTON LODGE, a seat of the late Colonel Caldicot, in whose family the village of *Halton* has been vested for several generations.

At **GOLTHO** are the remains of **GOLTHO HALL**, which was formerly the residence of the Grantham family; and at **BULLINGTON** are some vestiges of a *Priory*, which was founded by Simon Fitzwilliam, but has not been mentioned by Speed or Tanner. In the southern

southern corner of the Wapentake are the ruins of the once large and celebrated Abbey of

BARDNEY, which was situated in a marsh on the north banks of the Witham. It was founded in the time of the Saxons, before the year 647; to which Ethelred, King of Mercia, was a great benefactor. Resigning his crown, he turned monk, and was appointed the chief of this monastery. It is said to have had three hundred monks. Bede says that King Oswald was buried here, and had a rich banner of gold and purple placed over his tomb. But the remains of that king, except his right hand, were removed by his niece, Queen Ostrieth, to the church of Gloucester, A. D. 909. The hand was retained by the monks as a relique, to which they attributed a miraculous power, with the view of drawing to their house superstitious pilgrims. To sanction the imposture, for deception and falsehood are inseparable, they pretended it was incorruptible, and had remained sound for centuries. The monastery being burnt by the Danes, A. D. 870, Petrus Blesensis observes, it was rebuilt by Gilbert de Gaunt, "the noble and devout Earl of Lincoln," who bountifully annexed to it, besides other valuable possessions, the tythes of the whole of his extensive estates. William of Mahmsbury attributes the restoration to Bishop Remigius, who filled it with Benedictine Monks, to the honour of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Oswald, King and Martyr. Its annual revenues, at the dissolution, were valued, according to Speed, at 429l. 7s.

GARTREE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Asterby, Baumber, Belshford, Cawkwell, Donington, Edlington, Goldsby, Hemingby, Ranby, Scamlesby, Stainton Market, Stennigot, Sturton. Bucknall, Dalderby, Gautby, Horsington, Kirby Super Baine, Kirkstead, Langton, Martin, Minting, Scrivelsby, Stixwold, Tattershall, Tattershall-Thorpe, Thornton Tumby, Waddingworth, Wispington, and Woodhall.*

SCRIVELSEY

SCRIVELSBY was anciently a place belonging to the Marmions*, from whom, by marriage, it came through the Ludlows into the family of the *Dymocks*. This manor was held by barony and grand serjeantry, viz. at the time of the coronation of a king, the lord of this manor, or, if he should be unable to attend, he was to provide a substitute, "well armed for war, upon a good war horse, into the presence of our lord the king; and shall then and there cause it to be proclaimed, That if any one shall say, that our lord the king has not a right to his crown and kingdom, he will be ready and prepared to defend, with his body, the right of the king and kingdom against him, and all others whatsoever." This manor came into the family of Dymock in the reign of Richard the Second, since which time the descendants have been hereditary champions of England. Leland says, "Dymokes dwelleth at Scrivelsby, two miles from Horncastle." The house was plain and antique, and in the hall were all the champions of England, and the kings, in whose reigns they lived, with three suits of armour. This part of the house having been burnt down, has never been rebuilt. In the church are brasses for Sir Robert Dymoke, Knt. and Bart. and a bust of Lewis Dymoke, who died in 1760, aged 91; and who was champion to Kings George the First and Second.

At WYNGALL, in South Kelsey, was an *Alien Priory*, or cell subordinate to the Abbey of Sees in Normandy; and at this village, in the mansion of her father, Sir William Askev, was born *Anne Askew*, who, according to Fuller, "went to heaven in a chariot of fire."

At

* One of this family is the hero of an interesting modern poem, by Walter Scott, entitled, "*Marmion; a Tale of Flodden Field*." Lord Marmion, the fictitious hero of this poem, was an English knight of great rank and fortune in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. In Mr. Scott's work are some genealogical anecdotes of the families of Marmion and Dymock.

See Marmion's Ancient Armour, &c.

At KIRKSTEAD, on the banks of the Witham, once stood a CISTERTIAN ABBEY, which was founded A. D. 1139, by *Hugh Fitz Eudo*, second Lord of Tattershall, in the immediate vicinity. It was valued at the dissolution at 286l. 2s. 7d. annually; only a small part of a corner building, perhaps a tower, is left standing. The village of *Kirkstead* gave birth to that famous monk HUGH KIRKSTEAD, whom Fuller styles, “*a Benedictine-Cistercian-Bernadine Monk*, or, as it may be termed, a treble refined Christian.” For as a Benedictine monk was esteemed superior to a common Christian, so a Cistercian was considered purer than a Benedictine, and a Bernadine still more so than a Cistercian. So that this holy man must have formed the upper link in the chain of piety, or been at the very summit of monastic sanctity. He and *Serlo*, one of his own order, joining together, composed a Chronicle of the Cistercians, from their first arrival in England, A. D. 1131, when Walter de Espeke, founded their first abbey at Rivaulx, in Yorkshire, down to their own time, about A. D. 1210. The church at Kirkstead, is small and neat, originally the chapel of the monastery “was thatched.” The living is a donative, *extra episcopal*, and formerly was served by ministers of the established church; but, in the latter end of the seventeenth century, Mr. Disney, in whose gift it was, being a Dissenter, gave it to a minister of his own persuasion; and left a further endowment of thirty pounds per annum, in the hands of dissenting trustees, to be paid to the person whom they should recommend to do the duty. The celebrated Dr. *John Taylor*, of Norwich, held it from about the year 1715, for eighteen years; and at this place composed his justly valued “*Hebrew Concordance*,” in two volumes, folio. It has ever since been held by other protestant dissenting ministers, who, Mr. Gough says, “*bury by the established forms*,”

On an extensive marsh, about two miles from Kirkstead, stands what is called the *Tower of Moor*, or the *Moor-Tower*. It is a single octangular brick building, of a considerable height, with a winding staircase. Part of this is worn away, and the lower part
of

of the tower, on its south side, is in a ruinous condition. Various conjectures have been made, as to the age and intent of the building. There cannot be a doubt, that it was an advanced redoubt, or watch-tower, to Tattershall Castle, from which it is distant only four miles; and from the perfectly level country between, is completely seen from that important fortress.

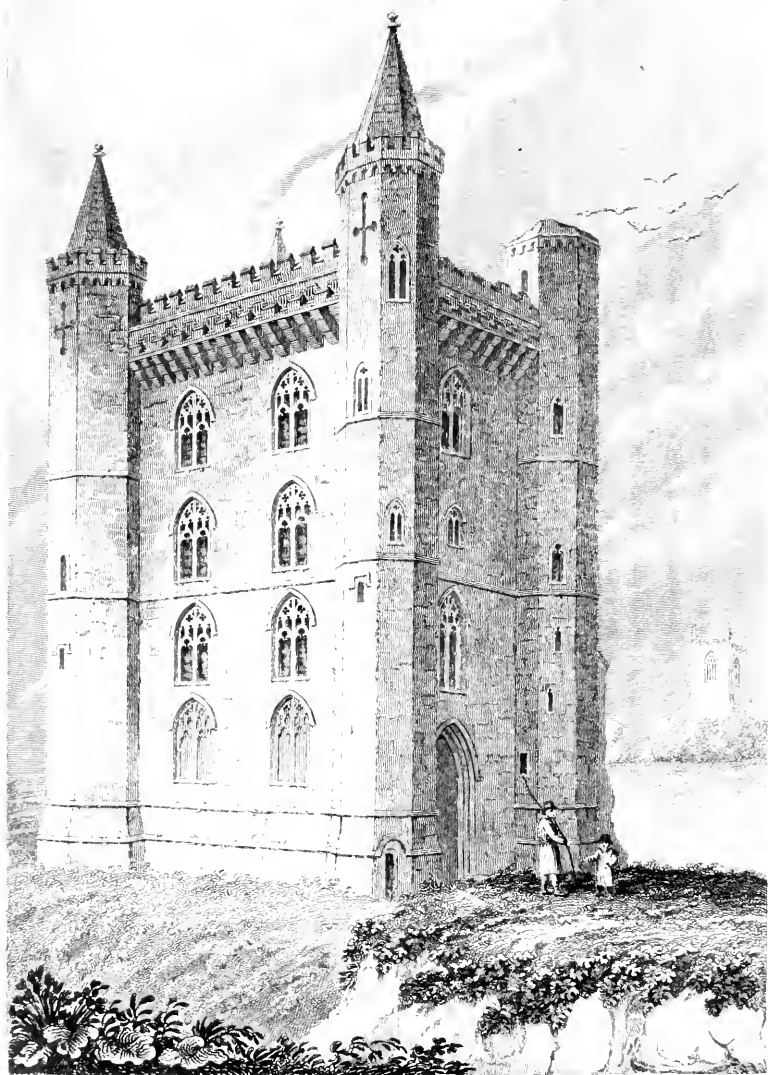
TATTERSHALL,

Is a small market-town, situated on the river Bain, just before it joins the Witham. In the time of King William the Conqueror this place formed part of the possessions, which he granted to *Eudo*, one of his Norman followers, a descendant of whom built a stately castle here. The Fitz Eudos were barons of parliament; and, from the place, assumed the name of *Tattershall*. Robert *Fitz Eudo* obtained a grant from King John, by presenting that monarch with a well-trained *Goshawk*, for the inhabitants of this town to have the privilege of holding a market weekly on Fridays: and his son, in the time of Edward the Third, received the royal licence to erect a castle within his manor of Tattershall. But the present fortress was built by *Sir Ralph Cromwell*, who was made, by King Henry the Sixth, in A. D. 1433, Treasurer of the Exchequer. He died A. D. 1455. Henry the Seventh, in A. D. 1487, granted the castle and manor to Margaret Countess of Richmond, and the following year entailed them on the Duke of Richmond; who dying without issue, they were, by Henry the Eighth, granted by letters patent, in 1520, to the Duke of Suffolk. This grant was confirmed by Edward the Sixth, in 1547. Four years afterwards they were passed in fee, by the same monarch, to Edward Lord Clinton, afterwards Earl of Lincoln. Of this family, Edward and Francis died at Tattershall, about the year 1693. By marriage with an heiress of the Clintons, it is now in the possession of Lord Fortesque. The *Castle* stands on a level moor, and is surrounded by two great fosses, the outer one formed of earth, and the inner one faced with brick, ten feet deep. This is occasionally filled with water from
the

the river. It was intended originally as a place of defence, and was progressively raised to great height and extent. In the civil wars it was however dilapidated. Till very lately, the principal gateway was remaining; the part at present left standing, is a square tower of brick, flanked by four octangular embattled turrets, which are crowned with spires, covered with lead. It is above two hundred feet in height, and divided into four stories. The main walls were carried to the top of the fourth story, where a capacious machicolation enclosed the tower, on which there is a parapet wall of great thickness, with arches. This was to protect the persons employed over the machicolations. Upon these arches is a second platform and parapet, containing embrasures; above which the spired turrets rise to a considerable height. The tower is constructed upon ponderous groined arches, which support the ground floor. In this there is a large open fire-place, adorned with sculptured foliage and emblematic devices; such as the treasury bags and shields of the Cromwell arms, with the motto, "*n'aime je droit*," &c. Similar ornaments are at Colyweston Hall, in Northamptonshire, which was a house begun by the treasurer, and afterwards finished by Margaret Countess of Richmond. On the second floor is another fire-place, decorated in a similar manner; and over these was a third story, with a flat roof. In the east wall are some narrow galleries, curiously arched, through which there were communications from the grand stairs, in the south east turret, to the principal apartments.

The church, built in the form of a cross, stands near the outer moat, and is a beautiful and spacious edifice. Few churches, perhaps, have suffered more dilapidations than this. It consisted of a nave, having five large arches on a side, and eight clerestory windows, placed in pairs; a transept, and a magnificent choir. The windows of the latter were glazed with beautiful stained glass, which was removed by a late Earl of Exeter to the chapel of Burleigh*, on condition that he replaced it with plain

* Mr. Gough says, "The late Mr. Banks, of Revesby, was employed by Lord Exeter to get the glass; the townspeople threatened to rise and obstruct





plain glass, which could have been done for the sum of forty pounds; but this being neglected, the inside has suffered greatly from the weather: although the walls, roof, and pavement, remain entire. The ruined screen and stalls of wood, richly carved, are almost rotten; behind it is a stone screen, in the niches of which have been painted figures of saints. The body of the church and transepts had their windows richly adorned with the legendary histories of St. Catherine, St. Guthlac, and other saints. "In one of the windows the Passion, in another Hell Torments, with divers creatures bound together with a chain; among them one with a crown, another with a mitre, the devil tormenting them, and below, "*Sic affliguntur penis qui prava sequuntur.*" The history of Hermogenes, that raised up the devils; and of St. Guthlac, the saint of the fens; and of Catherine, who cast them into the sea, that Harmogenes and Philetus raised; and the history of Cosdre, with his decollation*." A few fine fragments remain at present in some of the windows of the transept, while others have been blocked up. Before the altar lay two rich brass figures of Ralph Lord Cromwell, who died in 1455, and of Margaret his wife, who died in 1453. This Ralph Cromwell, in the seventeenth year of King Henry the Sixth, obtained a licence to make the church of Tattershall collegiate, for seven priests, six secular clerks, and six choristers. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin, St. Peter, and St. John the Baptist and Evangelist. He also founded, near the church-yard, an hospital for thirteen poor men and women, for the good estate of King Henry the Sixth, and the said Sir Ralph, during life, and afterwards

strict him; but he was a day before them. The glass being taken down hastily, for fear of the parishioners, no plan for its re-arrangement could be observed. Part of it was put up in the chapel at Barlegh; part given to Lord Warwick, to ornament his castle; and part remains unpacked." *Sepulchral Monuments, Part II. p. 174.*

* MS. of church notes before quoted, in the Harleian Collection.

wards for the health of their souls, and the souls of their parents, friends, and benefactors; but chiefly for the soul of Lady *Maud Cromwell*, sometime lady of *Tattershall*, his grandmother. The whole of the foundation was valued, in the twenty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, at 348l. 5s. 11d. per annum. The collegiate revenues were granted to Charles Duke of Suffolk. The hospital still remains, with a small endowment. The number of houses in this parish appears, by the returns made to parliament, to have been 101, and inhabitants 496.

HORNCASTLE SOKE consists of the following parishes, *Ashby West*, *Coningsby*, *Haltham upon Bain*, *Horncastle*, *Marcham-le-Fen*, *Mareham on the Hill*, *Moorby*, *Boughton*, *Thimbleby*, *Toynton High*, *Toynton Low*, *Wilksby*, and *Wood-Enderby*.

HORNCASTLE,

A market-town, is situated upon an angular piece of land, formed by a small rivulet, named *Waring*, and the river *Bain*. The latter is navigable from the *Witham* to this place. The name of the town is derived from *horn*, or *hyrn*, in Saxon, signifying an angle or corner, and a castle or fortification. Traces of the latter are yet visible, and the whole formerly occupied an area of nearly twenty acres. The foundations shew that it was in the form of a parallelogram, and inclosed a great part of the present town. Numbers of Roman coins have been found here, and, in digging, several bodies have frequently been discovered. Lately there existed, near the river, one of these intricate circles called
Julian's



ANCIENT CROSS AT SOMERSBY.



Julian's Bower. These circumstances, and its situation on a lingua, or tongue of land, induced Stukeley to consider it a Roman station; and to place here the *BANNOVALLUM* of the Geographer Ravennas. Camden observes, that anciently this castle was part of the estate of Adeliza de Candia, and was levelled to the ground in the reign of Stephen. Afterwards the manor became the Barony of Gerard de Rhodes. It was also a soke, containing thirteen lordships, of royal demesne; till King Richard the Second bestowed it on the Bishop of Carlisle, for his habitation and maintenance, when he was driven from his seat of Rose Castle by the Scots. But it appears, from other authorities, to have formed, at an earlier period, part of the possessions of that See; for in the *Court rolls* it is stated, that the bishop, in the seventeenth year of Henry the Third, fined for this manor in fee; but not to alienate without licence. It still belongs to the bishopric of Carlisle.

The town was incorporated in the time of Elizabeth, with privilege of holding a weekly market on Saturdays, and one annual fair on St. Lawrence's day. A considerable trade in leather is carried on here; the place being principally occupied by tanners. The returns, under the late act, make the number of houses 403, which are occupied by 2,015 inhabitants.

HILL WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Ashby-Puerorum*, *Aswardby*, *Brinkhill*, *Claxby-Pluck-Acre*, *Enderby Bag*, *Fulletby*, *Greetham*, *Hagworthingham*, *Hammeringham*, *Harrington*, *Laughton*, *Ormsby South*, *Oxcomb*, *Salmonby*, *Sausthorpe*, *Scrayfield*, *Somersby*, *Tetford*, *Walmsgate*, *Winceby*, and *Worldby*.

At BRINKHILL, in a strata of blue clay, are found numerous veins of a barren *marcasite*, which the people ignorantly suppose,

from its appearance, must contain gold. Under this impression, Mr. Gough says, "some of it was sent to London about forty years ago." Quantities of it may be seen, after rains, in a small rill, which runs through the place.

LANGTON, long the possession of the family of the Langtons, who derive their name from this parish, is famous for having been the birth-place of three distinguished characters. The first, *Stephen Langton* was created a cardinal, and promoted to the archbishopric of Canterbury by Pope Innocent the Third. This circumstance produced the rupture between that pontiff and King John, and led to the compulsive conduct of the barons, which so happily terminated in obtaining, for the people of England, that revered bulwark of their liberties, "*MAGNA CHARTA*." Dr. *William Langton*, President of Magdalene College, Oxford, in the time of James the First, was born here, and died in 1626; and the late *Bennett Langton*, Esq. whose name is associated with that of Dr. Johnson, both by epistolary and literary productions. The present Mr. Langton inhabits a good stone mansion, which was built about the time of Elizabeth, or in the early part of James the First's reign. The principal front faces the south, over the entrance of which appear the family arms. On a hill, at a small distance from the village, near the turnpike road, are three *barrows*, known by the name of the *Spellow Hills*, i. e. *Hills of the Slain*. They are probably Saxon, from the name, and are situated on a hill of chalk, of which they are composed; but the field being under a constant state of tillage, has tended to alter their original form.

In SOUTH ORMSBY are the remains of an ancient *encampment*, covering nearly three acres of ground. It is situated on the brow of a steep hill, which forms an oblique side. The other side is straight, and the ends square. Within the area are three small artificial mounts. Mr. Drake supposes this to have been a
Roman

Roman work. Several Roman coins, chiefly of the Emperor Constantine, have been found in and near it. Embosomed in groves of fine timber, stands a seat of *C. B. Massingberd, Esq.*

CALCEWORTH WAPENTAKE contains the following parishes and hamlets:—*Aby with Greenfield, Anderby, Belleau, Calceby, Cawthorpe Little, Claythorpe hamlet, Cumberworth, Gayton, Hogsthorpe, Huttoft alias Hightoft, Legbourn, Haugh hamlet, Mablethorpe, Mumby cum Chapel, Reston South, Sutton, Swaby, Thedlethorpe All Saints, Thedlethorpe St. Helen's, Thoresby South, Tothill, Trusthorpe.*—*Alford, Beesby, Bilsby with Thurlby, Claxby, Farlthorpe, Hagneby with Hannah, Marltby le Marsh, Markby, Rigsby with Ailsby, Saleby with Thoresthorpe, Strubby, Ulcby with Forthington, Well with Mawthorpe, Willoughby, and Withern with Stain.*

ALFORD

Is a small town, having a market weekly on Tuesdays, and two fairs annually. Camden says it owes these privileges to Leo, Lord Welles, who obtained a grant for them of Henry the Sixth. But in the *Magna Britannia* it is asserted, that they were obtained by William Lord Welles, in the time of Edward the First. The town consists principally of one street, about a quarter of a mile in length, and is watered by a small rivulet. Leland thus describes its appearance in his time: “*Alford, 16 miles from Boston, a mean market, in Low Lindesey Marsh, thakkid and redid, and a brooke cometh by it*.*” The church is an insignificant building, and the chancel is at present *thatched*. There is

Z z 2

a considerable

* Itin. V. VII. 50;

a considerable grammar-school, the governors of which present to the vicarage of Salesby. The number of houses, stated under the population act, is 229, of inhabitants 1,040.

At BELLEAU, so called from the excellent springs of water which issue from a chalk hill* in the vicinity, are the remains of what has been termed *The Abbey*, but are now considered those of a house belonging to the Earls of Lindsey. The ruins consist of two gateways, and part of a turret, which shew it to have been a place of considerable importance. Over one of the entrances is a grotesque head carved in stone. The walls are covered with ivy, and overtopped by lofty ash trees. After the termination of the civil war, this place was sequestered to that eccentric character *Sir Henry Vane*, who amused himself here on Sundays, in assembling and preaching to his country neighbours. It is now the property of Lord Gwydir, in right of his wife, Lady Willoughby de Eresby. The church of Belleau is of considerable antiquity, and Gough observes, that it "belonged to the neighbouring monastery of Ailby." For this he refers, however, to no authority, and no mention is made of such religious house, either in Dugdale or Tanner.

Near the village of WELL, adjacent to Alford, on a heath, are three curious *Celtic* barrows, which are contiguous to each other. In the year 1725 were found, contained in two fair urns, six hundred Roman coins. "The church," Mr. Gough says, "has been lately rebuilt in the form of an elegant Grecian temple."

At HAGNEBY, three miles and a half E. by N. of Alford, was an abbey of Premonstratensians, dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, and founded by *Herbert*, son of *Alardi de Orreby*, and
Agnes

* Near this place is one of the finest springs in the county, being sufficient to turn a large mill immediately at its source.

Agnes his wife, in the year 1175. At the suppression it contained nine canons, whose annual revenues were valued, according to Speed, at 98l. 7s. 4d.

THORESBY is a handsome seat of Mrs. Wood, relict of the late William Wood, Esq. who was proprietor of this lordship. The waters descending from a number of chalk hills in the vicinity here joining, form a rivulet, which, increased by the springs of Belleau, runs to *Witham*, whence it might be made, at a small expence, navigable to the sea, the fall from hence to *Saltfleet* being little more than five feet. *Maplethorpe* has a comfortable bathing house, resorted to, during the summer months, by families from Louth and other neighbouring places.

CANDLESHOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Addlethorpe, Burgh, Croft, Friskney, Ingoldmells, Northolme, Orby, Skegness, Wainfleet All Saints, Wainfleet St. Mary's, Winthorpe*.—*Ashby, Braytoft St. Peter and St. Paul, Candlesby, Dalby, Driby, Firsby, Gunby, Irby, Portney, Scremby, Skendleby, Steeping Magna, Satterby, and Welton in the Marsh.*

BURGH

Is a small town, situated on a knoll, or rising ground, in a marsh near the sea. According to Dr. Stukeley, here was once “a Roman castrum to guard the sea coasts, probably against the Saxon rovers. It is a piece of very high ground, partly natural, partly raised by Roman labour, overlooking the wide-extended marshes, perhaps in those times covered with salt water, at least in spring tides. There are two artificial *tumuli*, one very high, called *Cockhill*. In St. Mary's church yard, now demolished, Roman coins have been found*.” Burgh has a small market weekly, on

Z z 3

Thursday,

* Itin. Curios. p. 27.

Thursday, and two annual fairs. It had formerly two churches, St. Mary's and St. Peter's; but the latter only remains, in which was a chantry, founded by John Holden. It consists of a nave, north and south aisles, with a fine embattled tower; the battlements not pierced, but ornamented with quatrefoils, a turret at each corner, and three others on each side. The angles of the tower are supported by double buttresses. A free school was founded in this town by one of the family of *Le Hunt*, but from neglect, it is at present become merely a sinecure. The population returns, made under the late act, render the number of houses 135, and of inhabitants 716.

“SKEGNESE, sometye a great haven town, was once wallid, having a castle; the old town clean consumed and eten by the sea. For old Skegnes is now buildid a poor new thing*.”

WAINFLEET

Is a market town, situated in a marsh, on a small creek, through which the river *Limb* flows into Boston Deep. This place, Dr. Stukeley affirms, was the *Vainona* mentioned by Ravennas; and whence he supposes the name evidently derived. “The ancient haven was near St. Thomas's church, now called *Northolm*; 'tis still very deep thereabouts, and appears to have been broad, being a pretty good river†.” But by diverting the waters of the Fens more southerly, towards Boston, that place became the port town, in consequence of which the haven of Wainfleet was neglected. A road across the fen is still called *Salter's Road*, which Stukeley observes, was “probably the Roman road” between *Banovallum* and *Lindum*. Leland describes Wainfleet, in his time, as “a pretty market town, standing on a creke, near to the sea,

* Leland's Itin. Vol. VII. 50.

† Itin. Curios. p. 27.

sea. To this town long small vessels. It hath been a very good town, and in it two churches. The school that Wainflete, Bishop of Winchester, made and endowed with 10l. land, is the most notable thing. The Shippelets in hominum memoria came up to the *school*. The haven now decayith*." Probably the town, before the decay of the harbour, stood higher up the creek; for the church of All Saints stands at a place called *High* Wainfleet. This is a handsome building, though apparently not older than the time of Bishop Wainfleet. It has a brick tower of modern date, and is going fast to decay. In the south aisle of the church an alabaster monument still exists, which was erected by the pious bishop, to the memory of his father.

Wainfleet St. Mary's, or *Low* Wainfleet, has nothing worthy of note. The *school-house*, founded in 1459, is yet standing, and has a handsome window, also two octagonal turrets. A nominal market is held on Saturday, and the haven affords security to vessels when driven on the coast, in tempestuous weather. The number of houses returned under the late act for taking an account of the population, was, in the parish of All Saints, 96, inhabited by 506 persons. In the parish of St. Mary 66, occupied by 421 inhabitants.

That great prelate, called WILLIAM OF WAINFLEET, from the place of his nativity, according to the custom of the times among the clergy, was the eldest son of *Richard Partin, Esq.* the descendant of an ancient family in this county. He was educated at Oxford, where, being admired for the greatness of his abilities and acquirements, he was quickly preferred, and rose to great eminence in ecclesiastical preferments. He was made Bishop of Winchester, and was the munificent founder of that noble college, St. Mary Magdalene's, in his own university.

BOLINGBROKE SOKE contains the following parishes:—
 East division; *Enderby Mavis, Halton Holegate, Hundleby,*
 Z z 4 *Keal*

* Itin. Vol. VII. 50 and 204.

Keal East, Lusby, Raithby, Spilsby, Steeping Little, Thorpe, Toynton All Saints, Toynton St. Peter's. West division; *Asgarby, Bolingbroke, Hagnaby, Hareby, Keal West, Kirkby East, Miningsby, Revesby, Sibsey, Stickford and Stickney.*

BOLINGBROKE

Is a small town, having an annual fair, and a market weekly on Tuesdays, according to the *Magna Britannia*; though Leland says, it “hath once a year a fair, but hath no wekeley market*.” Yet it must have been formerly of consequence, by having given name to the *soke*. It contains, according to the returns made to parliament, 70 houses, and 283 inhabitants. A few ruins of its ancient castle still remain. It was situated in a bottom, where a stream rises and soon joins the Witham. This castle was built by William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln; and afterwards descending to the family of Lacy, it was taken, by King Edward the Second, from Alicia de Lacey, because she had married against his consent, and given by Edward the Third to John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. His son, afterward Henry the Fourth, was born here, from which circumstance he was called “Henry of Bolingbroke.” And from that event the town was ranked amongst those royal manors called, by way of peculiar distinction, “*Honours*.” This place gives the title of Viscount to the family of St. John of Lediard Tregose in Wiltshire.

SPILSBY,

The chief town in the southern part of Lindsey division, is situated on an eminence, overlooking to the south a large track of marsh and fen land, which is bounded by Boston Deepes and the German Ocean. The town consists of four streets, or lanes, uniting
at

* Itin. Vol. VII. 52.

at the market-place, which forms a spacious square, intersected in the centre by a row of houses, with the market-cross at the east end, and the town-hall at the west end. The *market-cross* consists of a plain octagonal shaft, with a quadrangular base terminated with a modern fane: the whole elevated on five steps. The *town-hall* is a plain brick building, standing on arches. In 1763, the fabric being in a ruinous and unsafe state, was taken down, and the foundation of the present one laid in 1764, the subscriptions of the inhabitants and neighbourhood amounting to 163l. 11s. The general quarter sessions of the peace for the south division of the parts of Lindsey, have been holden at Spilsby for above a hundred years; on account, probably, of the situation being found more convenient for the inhabitants in the neighbourhood than Horncastle, where no sessions have been kept since the year 1749. In 1807 an attempt was made to transfer them to the latter place, which was opposed by petition from more than 500 persons resident in the south part of the division, who remonstrated strongly against the proposed measure, on the ground of incurring additional expences, and a serious loss of time; besides, that the great distance from Horncastle must necessarily discourage the apprehension of vagrants, as well as the prosecution for petty offences, and the prevention in general of more serious crimes.

Here is a small *free-school*, the salary of the master arising from the rent of certain tenements bequeathed for that purpose; and a *sunday-school*, which was established a few years ago, promises to be of great service to the poorer inhabitants. In 1779 the manor of Spilsby passed, by marriage, to the present Lord Gwydir, then Sir Peter Bunell, who married Lady Willoughby, a daughter of the late, and sister of the present, Duke of Ancaster.

The *church*, which is situated on the west side of the town, is an irregular building, consisting of north and south ailes, the latter of much larger extent than the rest of the church, at the end
of

of which is placed the altar. A chapel, probably the former chancel, occupies the extremity of the body of the church, in which are some ancient monuments, belonging to the families of Beke, Willoughby, and Bertie, who were successively interred here. At the west end of the church is a handsome embattled tower, of a more modern date than the other parts of the structure, and probably erected about the time of Henry the Seventh. Tradition points out Spilsby to have formerly been a place of less note than at present, the market being removed hither from Partney; the church may be, therefore, reasonably supposed to have been enlarged at that time, and the families who were proprietors of the place, and resident at Eresby, to have occupied the original chancel as a place of burial for themselves and descendents.

"In the chancel is a brass figure of a lady in a mantle, hoddice, and mittens; a rich head-dress, and two cushions under her head, with this inscription :

Hic jacet Margareta que fuit uxor Roberti de Wylughby
D'ni de Eresby que obiit xvii die mensis Octobris an'o d'ni
Millimo ccc nonagesimo primo. cni aie p'picetur Deus*."

Spilsby has a market on Monday, and three annual fairs. The return of its population, under the late act, was 932 persons, occupying 200 houses.

At ERESBY was formerly a mansion house, belonging to the Bekes and Willoughbys. "The Lord Willoughbie had a house at Heresby, and a park of black deer two miles from Spilsby, where, as I hear say, he intendeth to build sumptuously†." Some years since the house was burnt down, and has not been rebuilt.

At REVESEY was a Cistercian abbey, founded by *William de Romara*,

* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. 151.

† Leland's Itin. Vol. VII. 50.

*See Blount's Ant.
Lin. 133.*

Romara, Earl of Lincoln, William his son, and Handewisa his wife, in the year 1142. By them it was amply endowed with lands, and subsequently more enriched by numerous benefactions. It was dedicated to St. Lawrence; and its annual revenues, at the dissolution, were valued at 349l. 4s. 10d. The site was then granted to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The charter of this monastery is preserved in Dugdale's *Monasticon*; and among a variety of particulars respecting exchanges of lands, manner of grants, and other matters, is this curious fact. It appears that to give greater solemnity to the ceremony of foundation, the Earl, on petition, manumitted, or set at liberty, several *slaves*. One of them was named *Wilhelmus Medicus*, a physician; another is called *Rogerus Barkarius*, who was probably a shepherd. The surnames of persons and families being, at that period, taken from profession or occupation. Till lately a family by the name of Barker resided in the neighbourhood. The Abbot's Lodge, which constituted part of an ancient mansion, now forms the offices belonging to a house built by Craven Howard, son of the Earl of Berkshire, but since considerably enlarged by the family of Banks. It is possessed by Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. who has laudably set an example to the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, by the numerous agricultural and other improvements he has made, or suggested, in the surrounding districts. The house stands upon an elevated spot, and commands a view over the east and west fens, which, in the summer months, display a vast tract of flat country. The grand system of drainage and inclosures, which is carrying into execution, will add greatly to the improvement of the prospect, and to the advantage of the situation.

Near Revesby is an *encampment*, with a broad foss, inclosing an area of land, which measures about 300 feet from east to west, and 100 from north to south. At each end is a large and lofty tumulus, about 100 feet in diameter, of similar form and position, having a space of 100 feet between. "It seems to have been a place of sepulture; perhaps two British Kings were there buried,
and

and the height on the north side was the place whereon they sacrificed horses, and the like, to the manes of the deceased. Or is it a place of religious worship among the old Britons, and the two hills may possibly be the temples of the sun and moon? I am inclined to think it ancient, because of the measure. The breadth is equal to 100 celtic feet, as I call them, the length to 300*."

HOLLAND DIVISION, called by Ingulphus *Hoilandea*, constitutes the south-eastern side of the county, and is bounded by parts of Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire on the south, the division of Lindsey on the north, on the east by the English Channel, and on the west by part of Kesteven division. The area thus circumscribed is about thirty miles from north to south, twenty-three from east to west, and comprises nearly 278,400 square acres. It is divided into three wapentakes, which are subdivided into thirty-four parishes. These include four market towns, one township, and four hamlets.

Nearly the whole of this tract of country appears to have been, at a remote period, inundated by the sea; but the persevering and scientific exertions of man have expelled the briny tide, and nearly secured the fertile lands from the overwhelming waters of the ocean. The stagnant pools have been drained, by means of deep canals with sluices; and the boisterous sea repelled by high and strong embankments. Most of the drains of this district, or *dykes* as they are provincially termed, communicate with, and empty themselves into, the rivers Welland and Witham, the channels of which have been new cut, widened, and altered in various places.

Holland is divided into upper and lower, both of the divisions entirely consisting of fens and marshes, some in a state of nature, but others intersected by numberless drains and canals, and crossed by

* Stukeley's *Itin. Curios.* p. 28.

by raised causeways, called *droves*. The lower, or southern division, is most watery, and is only preserved from constant inundations by vast mounds raised on the sea coast and on the banks of the rivers. The air of these tracts is generally unwholesome, and the water rather of a brackish nature; whence the inhabitants are obliged to make reservoirs of rain water. In summer vast swarms of insects fill the air, and prove a great nuisance to the inhabitants. Yet even here industry has produced comfort and opulence, by forming excellent pasture land out of the swamps and bogs, and even making them capable of yielding large crops of corn. The fens too, in their native state, are not without their utility, as they afford various objects of curiosity to the naturalist. The reeds with which the waters are covered make good thatch, and are annually harvested in great quantity for that purpose. Prodigious flocks of geese are bred among the undrained fens, forming a considerable object of commerce, as well for their quills and feathers, as for the birds, which are driven in great numbers to the London markets. The principal decoys in England for wild-ducks, teal, widgeon, and other fowls of the duck kind, are in these parts, and afford the chief supplies to the metropolis. Wild-geese, grebes, godwits, whimbrels, coots, ruffs and reeves, and a great variety of other species of water-fowl, breed here in amazing numbers, and obtain plentiful food from the fishy pools and streams.

Near Spalding is the greatest *herony* in England, and another at Surfleet, where the herons build together like rooks on high trees. The avoset, or yelper, distinguished by its bill, which bends upwards, is found in great numbers about Fossdike Wash; as also those delicate birds, the knots and dottrells. Great quantities of these wild-fowl are caught by means of

DECOYS, which are more numerous in this county than in any other part of England. These are generally formed by pools, surrounded by wood, and branching off from them are small canals, or ditches, called *pipes*. At the time of catching the fowls, these are covered over by nets, which rest on hoops, and
are

are terminated by a drawing net. Into these the wild fowl are enticed by various devices; but the usual mode is by means of a *decoy duck*, i. e. one that has been trained up for the purpose. This is taught to obey the whistle of the decoy man, who tempts it to swim up the trapping funnel, when he sees a number of wild birds. These follow the tame one; and when they have all entered the channel, are inclosed, and taken by the net. In all cases, however, the tame duck does not succeed in trepanning the others, when the decoy man employs a small dog, which by swimming about among the rushes and reeds, close to the mouth of the neck, attracts the wild fowl. The general season for catching these is from the end of October till February. An act of parliament passed in the tenth year of George the Second, forbids the taking of them from June the 1st till October the 1st, under a penalty of five shillings for every bird so illegally caught. The decoys of Lincoln supply the London market with wild fowl, and the number annually taken is almost incredible. Ten decoys in the west fen, it is stated, during one winter, furnished the enormous number of 31,200.

The subdivisions of Holland are the wapentakes of Skirbeck, Kirton, and Elloe.

SKIRBECK WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Bennington*, *Boston*, *Butterwick*, *Fishtoft*, *Freiston*, *Leake*, *Leverton*, *Skirbeck*, and *Wrangle*.

BOSTON,

The chief town in the division of Holland for population and trade, is situated on the river Witham, or, as named by Leland, *Lindis*, about five miles from its mouth, and thirty south-east of Lincoln. The parish is about two miles in length and one in breadth;

breadth; and the town occupies about half of that extent. It is a market and borough town, incorporated as early as the fifth year of King John's reign, and sent members to the national council in the time of King Edward the Second. In succeeding reigns, by new charters, it obtained many privileges and immunities. In a charter dated the thirty-seventh year of Henry the Eighth, it was declared a borough, to be governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and eighteen common council men, or burgesses; a recorder, town clerk, six constables, a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and a clerk of the market. The mayor and burgesses to be a body corporate, and to implead, or to be impleaded, by the name of, "The Mayor and Burgesses of Boston, in the county of Lincoln," with privilege to hold two markets weekly, on Wednesday and Saturday; and two fairs annually, on the feast of St. George, and the feast of St. James; and during the same, to hold courts of *pie poudre*. By a charter dated in the time of Elizabeth, the mayor and burgesses were empowered to hold a court of admiralty, for the port and creeks of Boston; and in the reign of James the First still farther privileges were granted.

In early history little is found respecting this place; though from its situation, it probably obtained very early notice. Stukeley says that the Romans built a fort at the entrance of the Witham, and had a ferry over the river at *Redstone Gouet*, about a furlong distance from the south entrance of the present town; and that an old Roman foundation was dug up here, with an urn, containing ashes, a small pot with an ear to it, an iron key, and an urn lined "with lead, full of red earth and bones, unquestionably Roman."

In the early part of the reign of Edward the Second, a *staple** was established at Boston, for wool, leather, tin, lead,
and

* Leland says, "the staple and stiliard houses yet remain." In the bite of the river, a building stands, which goes by the name of the *Stilyard*.
This

and other mercantile articles. By the roll of the "high fleet" of Edward the Third, Boston appears to have been then a considerable place; for it furnished a quota of *sixteen ships* to the "maritime militia." Subsequent to that the town gradually declined in the commercial scale; and about fifty years ago it sunk so low, as nearly to lose the whole of its trade, owing to the navigation of the Witham being choaked with *silt*. The *barges*, or flat vessels, which required only a small draught of water, could then reach the quays only at high spring tides. But on cutting a new channel from the town to Dogdyke, an extent of twelve miles, the river was again rendered navigable. The Holland fens being inclosed about forty years since, the produce of 22,000 acres of rich cultivated land came to the market; and these occasioned an increase of shipping from five or six, to seventy or eighty vessels, exclusive of other small craft. And the inclosure and draining of *Wildmore*, with the *east* and *west fens*, which consist of about 41,000 acres, now carrying into effect, together with the improvement of the port under the direction of Mr. Rennie, will be greatly conducive to the wealth and population of the place. The foreign trade is principally to the north of Europe, and consists of imports of deals, battens, barks, hemp, iron, linen, &c. Its export trade is chiefly coasting, and consists of corn and other provisions, with an occasional back freight of coals from Sunderland and Newcastle. Of late quantities of coals from Sunderland have been brought down the Trent and Witham. Formerly Boston had several religious houses, among which was St. Botolph's priory, founded, according to Leland, by St. Botolph, in the time of the Saxons, whence the town derived both its origin and its name. Besides which there was a priory near the sea, dedicated to St. Mary; four friaries of austin, black, grey, and white friars; and three colleges, dedicated to St. Mary, Corpus

This was probably the site of the ancient custom-house, where, while the staple privileges remained, the commodities were weighed, by means of a large steelyard, or weighing machine.

Corpus Christi, and St. Peter. The chief object of curiosity and beauty in the town is the CHURCH, which is a large, elegant, and interesting pile of architecture; at once an honour to the taste and science of our ancient artists, and to the religious zeal of the people. At what time it was built is not ascertained. Stukeley says, that the first stone was laid by dame *Margery Tilney*, in the year 1309; and "that she put five pounds upon it, as did Sir John Twesdale, the vicar, and Richard Stevenson, a like sum; and that these were the greatest sums at that time given*." It is dedicated to St. Botolph, the tutelar saint of mariners, and is supposed to be the largest church, without cross ailes, in the kingdom. The nave is extremely lofty and grand; and the ceiling, representing a stone vaulting, is said to be of Irish oak. It consists of fourteen groined arches, with light spandrils, which, by their elegant curves, intersections, and embossments, produce a beautiful effect. The upper part of the nave is lighted by twenty-eight clerestory windows, between the springs of the arches. Beneath these, and on each side of the nave, is an aisle, the roofs of which were formerly lined with flat ceilings, divided into a great number of compartments, each ornamented with historic painting; but these becoming impaired, were replaced by ceilings, in some degree corresponding with that of the nave. The latter is divided by an open screen into two unequal parts; that on the west side, being about one-third, forms a noble area; that on the east, containing the other two-thirds, is used for the performauce of divine worship. The chancel, which is spacious and lofty, has on each side ranges of stalls, the seats of which are ornamented with grotesque carvings, and over these formerly were canopies, highly embellished with foliage and fret work. The altar is of oak, in the Corinthian order, which, though beautiful, must disgust the eye of taste, as not being in unison with the style of the building. It is enriched by a copy of Rubens' celebrated picture, "The taking

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down

* Itin. Curios.

down from the Cross," executed by P. Mequignon, and was the gift of Richard Smith, Esq. It is a received opinion, that the TOWER was built after the model of that belonging to the great church of Antwerp; and comparing it with the print of that structure, drawn and engraved by Hollar, there is evidently a great similarity. It is peculiarly handsome, and measures 282 feet in height. The shape and altitude of this part of the structure, with the extreme richness of the tracery, windows, buttresses, pinnacles, lantern, &c. conspire to render it an object of general attraction and admiration. It may, perhaps, without depreciating other similar edifices, be pronounced the most elegant tower in England. It is divided into four stories, exclusive of an ornamented basement. In the lower tier are three large windows, full of mullions and tracery. In the next story there are two windows on each front, with ogee canopies: and above these is the third story, having one large window in each front. This division is crowned with a parapet, embattled wall, and an octangular lantern, which has a window in each face, and is connected with the corner pinnacles by flying buttresses*. The length of the church, from the western door in the tower to the east wall in the chancel, is two hundred and ninety feet, and the breadth of the nave and aisles ninety-nine feet.

Besides the church, Boston contains a meeting house for the sect called Independents, a general Baptist chapel, a Calvinistic Baptist chapel, an Arminian Methodistic chapel, and another chapel for a sect who style themselves *Universalists*.

Among the charitable foundations in this town, is the free *grammar school*, which was first endowed by a grant, dated 17th of January, 1554, of lands in the time of Queen Mary; but, as appears by an inscription over the entrance, the school was not erected till the ninth year of Elizabeth.

A *charity*

* A view of this very elegant tower, with a particular description, and some architectural details, will be given in the third volume of the *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*.



BOSTON CHURCH,
Lincolnshire.

A *charity school* was founded by a Mr. Laughton, for twenty-five boys, who are to be sons of free burgesses, and are admissible at the age of seven years. They remain till they arrive at fourteen, when each boy, as he goes off the foundation, is entitled to receive ten pounds as a premium to put him apprentice, provided he be bound to a free burgess.

The *blue-coat school*, established about the year 1713, is supported chiefly by subscription, and admits thirty boys, to be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; and twenty girls, who are instructed in reading, knitting, and plain work.

In the year 1795, a *general dispensary* was instituted, which has been laudably supported by subscription; and from which the poor of the town and neighbourhood have received very considerable benefit.

A permanent *library* was established in 1799, which, with various reading societies, evince, that the inhabitants of Boston have a taste for literature, and that, amidst other pleasures, they do not neglect those which arise from the cultivation of the mind.

A *theatre*, on a large scale, was erected, and fitted up in the modern style, in the year 1806.

But among the greatest improvements which have been made in this town may be ranked that of deepening the channel of the river, and enlarging the harbour, which have been effected from the designs of the scientific engineer, Mr. Rennie. Part of the plan which has been put in execution, is the erection of an *iron bridge*. It consists of a single arch, the small segment of a large circle, eighty-six feet in the span; and the breadth, including the cornice on each side, is thirty-nine feet. A circumstance observable in this bridge, and which is a striking feature in all Mr. Rennie's structures of this kind is, the placing the abutments so deep and low, as to relieve the convexity of the arch. So that instead of the artificial and inconvenient hills which bridges usually occasion in the road, the passage is, by this means, permitted to keep an horizontal direction. The expence was defrayed by the corpora-

tion of Boston; and which, including the purchase-money of buildings, &c. amounted to nearly the sum of 22,000*l*. It was made passable for carriages, May 2d, 1807.

Boston, like most other places in marshy situations near the sea, experiences a deficiency of good water, as that from the wells is generally brackish. This is found to be the case after boring to a great depth. There are, however, a few private wells, or reservoirs, and one public pump, which furnishes tolerably good water. The cavity with which the latter communicates, consists of two large ancient vaulted rooms, built of brick.

JOHN FOX, the *martyrologist*, whose fame, through his works, has stood the ordeal of ages, and who occasioned much contention among the papists and protestants, was a native of Boston. He was educated at Oxford, and became fellow of Magdalen college; but refusing to conform to the motley religion set up by King Henry the Eighth, after he had renounced the pope's supremacy, he was appointed tutor to the Duke of Norfolk's family, and preached the gospel at Ryegate. To save him from the persecution of the sanguinary *Gardiner*, Bishop of Winchester, the duke sent him into Germany. In the time of Edward the Sixth he returned, and resumed his function at Ryegate. Queen Mary soon afterwards ascending the throne, he was again obliged to fly; on which occasion he went to his friend *Operinus*, printer at Basil, whom he had formerly assisted, and there first published his Latin edition of "The Book of Martyrs." On Queen Elizabeth's coming to the crown, Fox returned again to England; was well received by the Duke of Norfolk, and, through his patronage, became minister of Ryegate, and prebendary of Shipton, in the diocese of Salisbury.

KIRTON WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Algarkirk*, *Bickor*, *Brothertoft*, *Donington*, *Fosdyke*, *Frampton*, *Gosberton*, *Kirton Quadring*, *Skirbeck Quarter*, *Surfleet*, *Sutterton*,
Swineshead,

Swineshead, Wigtoft, and Wyberton, with the two extraparochial places of *North Forty Foot Bank* and *Wastlands*.

DONINGTON, OR DONNINGTON,

Is a small town, which has a weekly market on Saturday, and two fairs annually. A new road, called *Bridgend Causeway*, has lately been made across the fens, from this town to *Folkington*, which has greatly contributed to the convenience of the neighbourhood during winter, as the road, previous to this improvement, was almost impassable in that season. A free school was erected and endowed here in A. D. 1718, by Thomas Cowley, Esq. who left all his estates to be divided among, and applied to the use of, the poor of every parish in which they respectively lay, and for other beneficent uses; of which 400*l.* per annum came to the poor of Donington. This place is noted for the sale of hemp and hemp seed. The number of houses appears, by the returns made to government in 1801, to have been 216, of inhabitants 1,321.

In digging for foundations behind the school-house, was discovered a vault, four feet square, built of hewn stone, containing an urn filled with red earth. And amid the ruins of some ancient buildings, a few glazed earthen vessels, specimens, it is supposed, of ancient pottery made at *Bolingbroke*, were found.

ALGARKIRK has a handsome church. In the church-yard is an image of stone, said to be the statue of *Algar*, Earl of *Mercia*, who, with his gallant stewards, *Wybert* and *Leofric*, so valiantly opposed the incursions of the *Danes*, over whom, near this place, he obtained a decisive victory, A. D. 870, but paid for it with his life the following day.

SWINEHEAD, OR SWINESHEAD,

Is a small market town, containing, as stated by the returns made to parliament, 290 houses, and 1,544 inhabitants. It is

famous for having been the first resting place of King John, after he lost the whole of his baggage, and narrowly escaped with his life, when crossing the marshes, in his military progress from Lynn to Sleaford, the castle of which latter place was then in his possession. He left this town on horseback, but being taken ill with a dysentery, was moved in a litter to Sleaford, and thence to his castle of Newark, where he died on the following day. Matthew Paris, and other historians, ascribe the king's death to a fever, which was brought on by vexation, and heightened by imprudently eating peaches, and drinking new cyder. But an author who lived about a century after the event, asserts, that the king died in consequence of poison, administered to him by a monk of a religious house which then existed at Swinehead*. This was an *abbey* of cistercian monks, founded by Robert Greslei, A. D. 1134, and valued at the dissolution, according to Dugdale, at 167l. 15s. 3d. per annum. Gilbert de Holland, Abbot of Swinehead, was cotemporary with, and a particular friend of, *St. Bernard*. He wrote the life of that saint, and died and was buried at Thoulouse, in the year 1280.

Of the abbey buildings no vestiges are left; but a mansion was erected out of the ruins by one of the family of Lockton. In the church, a handsome spacious building, with a lofty chancel, is a monument of *Sir John Lockton*, who died A. D. 1610.

In the parish of *Surfleet*, is *CRESSEY HALL*, the property of Mr. Heron, a descendent of Sir John Heron, Knight, who was privy counsellor to Henry the Seventh, whose mother was here once sumptuously entertained by Sir John; and the state-bedstead on which she lay is described by Stukeley to be made of curiously embossed oak. It is preserved in a farmer's house in the neighbourhood. The house was handsomely rebuilt by Sir Henry Heron, Knight of the Bath, who died in 1695, and lies buried in the church. This was once a private chapel, and appears to have

* See this circumstance discussed by Mr. Pegge in *Archaeologia*, Vol. IV, p. 29.

have been built about the year 1309, as an inscription over the door, respecting the licencing of the building, contains that date.

At this place is a vast *Heronry*, which has been, however, considerably reduced of late, on account of the damage the birds do to the lands. The herons resort here for the purpose of repairing their nests about February, and settle in the spring to breed. They are numerous and gregarious, and their nests so crowded together, that Mr. Pennant observes, that in Scotland he has seen eighty on one tree.

The Heron, or *Ardea Major* of Linnæus, is a voracious bird; and, according to Buffon, exhibits a picture of wretchedness, anxiety, and indigence. It subsists on fish, frogs, water newts, &c. and occasionally flies to a great distance in search of food. In England this bird was formerly ranked among the royal game, and protected, as partridges and hares are now, by specific laws. Persons who destroyed their eggs were subject to a fine of twenty shillings for each offence. Heron-hawking was at that time a favourite diversion among the nobility and gentry of the kingdom, and at whose table this bird was deemed a choice dish. A passage in Shakespeare that alludes to the heron, has occasioned much controversy with verbal critics. Allusive, and as a reproach, to ignorance, it states, "He does not know a *hawk* from a hand-saw, or *heron-shaw*." The latter is the common name of the fowl; but, in vulgar pronunciation, it is often called in this proverb, handsaw. An interesting account of the heron, with an accurate representation of it, are preserved in Bewick's "*History of British Birds*," Vol. II.

KIRTON, or KIRKTOWN, is described as a market town in most topographical works; but though it formerly possessed a weekly market, and two annual fairs, it is mentioned in Howlet's Views as only "a large village." In 1800 it contained 269 houses, and 1,238 inhabitants. The patronage of the living, which is a discharged vicarage, including the chapelry of Brother-

toft, is vested in the Mercer's Company, of London. Kirton has been noted for its spacious and elegant church, which was formerly collegiate, and is said to have been built by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln; but its style of architecture displays a much later date. Being found much dilapidated and decayed, its chancel, tower, and transepts, were taken down in the year 1805. The tower was originally in the centre of the church, at the intersection of the transepts with the nave. When taken down, the stones were marked and numbered, and the whole have been employed in re-erecting a new tower at the western end of the church. The nave and ailes remain in their original state; and at the western end of the former is a semicircular arch, which is probably a part of Alexander's structure. Within the church is an handsome *font*, with eight faces, in each of which is a recessed panel, with a shield. On the pedestal is this inscription:—"Orate pro aia ALAUNI BURTON qui fontem istum fieri fec. A. D. M CCCC v."

ELLOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes and hamlets of Cowbit, Croyland, Fleet, Gedney, Gedney Hill hamlet, Holbeach, Sutton, St. Nicholas hamlet, Moulton, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Sutton St. Edmund's hamlet, Sutton St. James's hamlet, Sutton St. Mary's, Tyd St. Mary's, Weston, Whapload, and Whapload Drove hamlet. The principal place in this district is

HOLBEACH,

An ancient market town, consisting of 556 houses, and 2,683 inhabitants. Among the ancient foundations of this place may be specified an hospital, which was endowed and established by Sir John de Kirton, Knight, about the year 1351. It was intended

tended to support a warden, chaplain, and fourteen poor pensioners. A free grammar-school was also founded here, by a licence from King Edward the Third, who granted certain lands for its support. Another free school was established here about the year 1669, by George Farmer, Esq. and the revenues for its support have been much increased by subsequent donations and bequests. In the market place was an ancient stone cross, supposed to have been raised about the year 1253; near which period Thomas de Malton, Lord Egremont, obtained the grant of a weekly market and an annual fair.

The chief building of Holbeach is the church, which is a large handsome structure; and consists of a nave, chancel, ailes, porch, and square tower. The latter is surmounted with an octangular ornamental spire. Each angle is charged with crockets, and each face has two windows, with canopies, &c. The north porch is rather curious, having two circular towers, with embattled parapets, at its extreme angles. Within the church are some fine monuments to the Irby family, and to the Littleburys, both of which formerly resided in this neighbourhood. Dr. Stukeley has given a plate, with some account of a fine altar monument, with a statue in armour of a person belonging to the latter family.

Holbeach has derived some eminence from two of its natives, one of whom was *Henry de Rands*, called, from the place of his birth, *Holbeck*. After passing through different ecclesiastical offices, he was advanced to the bishopric of Lincoln. See some account of him in p. 623. The other native of this town was WILLIAM STUKELEY, M. D. C. M. L. F. A. S. and F. R. S. whose name and memory are respected by every true lover of English antiquities; and whose literary disquisitions will be always considered curious, and therefore interesting, to a certain class of readers and amateurs of books. He was descended from an ancient family in this county, and was born here November 7th, 1687. After receiving the first rudiments of education under Mr. Edward Kelson, in the free school of this town, he was admitted

mitted of Bennet College, Cambridge, where he made medicine and botany his peculiar study. Taking a degree in physic, he removed to London in the year 1717, where, on the recommendation of his friend Dr. Mead, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and was one among the distinguished number who, about that time, revived the Society of Antiquaries. To the latter he acted for many years as secretary. He was also made a member of the College of Physicians, and became one of the censors. After residing in London a few years, he retired to Grantham, in Lincolnshire, at which place he married and settled. Afflicted with the gout during the winter, it was his custom to travel for his health in the spring or summer; and in these journies he acquired a particular and zealous love of antiquities. This is manifested by the researches and observations which are contained in his valuable work, "*The Itinerarium Curiosum*." Finding his health inadequate to the fatigue of his profession, he turned his view to the church, and was ordained at Croyden, July 20th, 1730. In the October following he was presented to the living of All Saints, in the town of Stamford, and was afterwards Rector of St. Peter's, and Master of Brown's Hospital, in the same place. He appears to have had the offer of several better livings, which he declined. He was presented by the Duke of Ancaster with the living of Somerby, who also appointed him one of his chaplains. About the time of these promotions, he published an account of *Stonehenge**. At the instance

* This curious work displays much speculation and theory; but, exclusive of the descriptive facts which serve to perpetuate certain parts of that extraordinary monument, it is likely to deceive and bewilder the reader. The young antiquary, if I may be allowed the phrase, must scrutinize and doubt almost the greater part of the doctor's writings, if he wishes to avoid error and false opinions. It is much to be regretted that the Elements of English Antiquities have never been perspicuously and rationally elucidated: they are reducible to a few points: and I am persuaded, might be easily and usefully developed. Potter and Harwood have explained those of the Grecians; whilst Kennet, Adams, and others, have described such as appertained

instance of the Duke of Montague, he resigned his preferments in the country, and, in lieu of them, accepted the Rectory of St. George's, Queen Square, London. He was seized with a paralytic stroke, which terminated fatally the 3d of March, 1765; when, by temperance and regularity, he had attained his seventy-eighth year. Thus ended a valuable life, sedulously spent in endeavouring to illustrate the obscure remains of antiquity. His early writings presaged what might justly be expected in maturer years, and the lovers of antiquarian studies were not disappointed. He had a sagacity peculiar to great genius, joined with unwearied industry. But in his investigations he appears too partial to a favourite hypothesis, and too fanciful in his descriptions for the impartial enquirer after truth. His character has been given by his friend, Mr. Peter Collinson, and printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for the year 1765. His principal works are, 1. "*Itinerarium Curiosum, or an Account of the Curiosities and Antiquities of Great Britain.*" Folio. 2. "*An Account of Stonehenge and Avebury.*" 2 vols. Folio. 3. "*Palæographia Sacra, or Discourses of the Monuments of Antiquity, that relate to Sacred History.*" Quarto. 4. "*Palæographia Britannica.*" Quarto. 5. "*History of Carausius.*" 2 vols. Quarto. 6. "*Dissertation on the Spleen.*" Folio.

About a mile and a half from Helbeach is the village of GEDNEY, worthy of notice for its church, which "is the lightest and most airy, and perhaps the loftiest of any in this part of the county*." It consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, porch, and tower. The number of windows in the whole are fifty-three. In those of the north aisle are considerable remains of fine painted glass. The south door has a curious copper

to the Romans; but no author has yet favoured the public with an exclusive work respecting those belonging to the British Islands. Having collected much matter for such a work, it is my intention, at some future period, to submit it to the world.

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 234.

copper lock, bearing an ancient inscription; and over the door is carved in oak, in Saxon letters, “*Pax Christi sit huic domni & omnibus inhabitantibus in ea : hic requies nostra ;*” and under four blank shields, in capitals—IN HOPE. Against a south window of the nave is a monument with an effigy, sacred to *Adlard Welby*, Esq. of Gedney, who died 1576, and Cassandra his wife.

At *Gedney Hill*, which is a chapelry in this parish, several *Roman coins* have been found; and about two miles north of South Sea bank, in a field called the *high doles*, is an encampment with a double foss, wherein numerous Roman coins have been discovered, also the foundations of buildings. Another similar moated area is in the parish of *Sutton St. Edmund's*, about an equal distance from the same bank; and at *Aswic grange*, near Whaplode-drove chapel, is another similar encampment, where also various *coins* and *urns* have been dug up. These encampments, which form a triangle, are within view of each other, and being in the south-eastern extremity of the county, near Catscove corner, Mr. Britain, as quoted by Stukeley, supposed were Roman *Castella*, raised to secure the possession of the country: he also conjectures that they were the works of a Roman general of the name of Catus.

In WHAPLODE were discovered various pipes inserted in each other, for the purpose of conveying water; and in the Sea Dyke Bank, between Fleet and Gedney, was dug up a brass sword, which Stukeley considered to have been of Roman fabric.

SPALDING

Is a considerable and ancient market-town, in the southern part of the division, about eight miles to the west of Holbeach. Seated in the midst of a fenny district, and encompassed by the river Welland, and an ancient drain called the Westlode, with numerous other drains in the vicinity, Spalding has, not inappropriately, been compared to a Dutch town. Though thus situated, and though

though such a site does not appear to be congenial to human healthfulness, it certainly lays claim to great antiquity, as is testified by many ancient remains which have been discovered in the town and its vicinity. It certainly existed before the foundation of Croyland Abbey, for in the Charter of King Ethelbald to that Monastery, the bounds of its lands are described as extending "*usque ad cedeficia Spaldeling* *." Anterior to the conquest, the manor was the property of Algar, Earl of Mercia; subsequent to that event, it was granted with the whole of Holland by William the Conqueror, to his nephew, *Ivo Tailbois*. After various changes, it at present is the property of Lord Eardley, who was some years since created Baron Spalding. Another manor, called Spalding cum Croyland, belongs to Thomas Buckworth, Esq. A castle was erected here by Ivo Tailbois, the moat of which was visible in 1746, in part of the castlefields, called Coney Garth, where that proud baron used to reside in great splendour. He also added to the endowments of the priory, which Thorold de Brokenhale founded, A. D. 1051, for six Benedictine monks, and made it a cell to Croyland. This religious house became in succeeding times a monastery of great consequence, and was one of the two mitred ones in this county. The accounts of the different altercations between its priors and the abbots of Croyland, tend to illustrate the spirit and manners of the times. Richard Palmer, the last prior, surrendered his convent into the king's hands, A. D. 1540, at which period its annual revenues were valued, according to Speed, at 1217l. 5s. 11d. From this place Egelric, Abbot of Croyland, made a firm causeway, called *Elrick-road*, through the marsh, called *Arundel Forest*, to Deeping, being an extent of twelve miles. It was formed by driving in piles of wood, and covering them over with layers of gravel; but no traces of this road are visible. The churches of Holy Cross, and "St. Mary Stokys," being decayed, and the conventual church, though spacious, much crowded; the prior, pulled down the latter,

* Ingulphus. Hist. p. 435.

latter, and built the present parish church, in the year 1284. It is a light structure, with a handsome spire, which has crockets at the angles; its beautiful porch appears to have been added about the end of the fifteenth century. A house, for a free grammar school, was erected here in the reign of Elizabeth; it was bequeathed by the will of John Blanche, bearing date 27th of May, 1588, wherein he devised lands for the endowment.

Another school, called the *Petty School*, in contradistinction to the grammar school, was founded by *Thomas Wellesby*, gent. in the year 1682. Here is also a blue-coat charity school, which was founded by a person of the name of *Gamlyn*. In Church-street is an almshouse, which was rebuilt in 1754, and contains eleven tenements, each having a plot of garden-ground. It was founded and endowed by Sir Mathew Gamlyn, A. D. 1590, for the benefit of twenty-two poor persons. Another almshouse, for eight poor widows, was erected August 19th, A. D. 1709, by Mrs. Elizabeth Sparke.

For many centuries Spalding has been the principal seat of jurisdiction, for the division of Holland. In the Saxon times, the courts of law were held here by the Earls; and subsequent to the Norman conquest, the priors, under their patrons the Dukes of Lancaster, and afterwards the Earls of Lincoln, till the suppression of the monastery, were vested with the judicial authority. During that period even capital offences were cognizable in the conventual court of this district. But at the dissolution of religious houses, statutes were enacted which removed the power of deciding on life and death from all such inferior courts*. Since that time a court of sessions has been held here; for which purpose a town-hall, or, as it is termed, a court-house, was built at the expence of Mr. John Holstan. It is a substantial brick building,
situated

* From the register of Spalding manor, by Sir Lawrence Myntling, librarian and illuminator of the abbey, it appears, that under the power of this local court, eighty felons were hanged on the Prior's gallows, from the forty-first year of Henry the Third, to the sixteenth of Henry the Seventh.

situated at the north-west end of the market-place ; the upper rooms of it are used for the quarter sessions, the courts leet and baron, the court of requests, and the court of sewers. The under part of the building is let out for shops, conformably to the will of the founder, and the rents appropriated to the use of the poor. A small company of comedians was accustomed to perform, at one season of the year, in the upper rooms ; but for their better accommodation, a small theatre has been erected near the market-place : and an assembly and card-rooms fitted up, adjoining the town-hall.

Spalding, since the river Welland was made navigable to the town, has enjoyed a good carrying and coasting trade. It is registered, in the book of rates at the custom-house, “ a member of the port of Boston.” The river is navigable for barges of about forty tons burthen to the centre of the town, where are good quays with spacious store-houses ; but vessels that require a large draught of water can come no further than *Boston Scalp*, distant about nine miles. Various attempts have been unsuccessfully made to introduce manufactures into Spalding ; the town derives its principal support at present from agriculture, and the many extensive grazing concerns carried on in the vicinity. Wool consequently forms a very prominent feature in its trade ; more especially since allowance has been given, under certain restrictions, to carry the article coastwise. The neighbourhood supplies the manufacturing towns of Yorkshire and Norfolk with long wool, which is here deposited and packed, and carried to the respective places. Spalding has a flourishing market weekly on Tuesdays ; five fairs annually, and two statutes for hiring servants. By the returns under the late act, the number of houses was 737 ; of inhabitants 3,296. The establishment of the society of antiquaries at London, in the beginning of the last century, gave rise to several minor establishments in different provincial towns. Literary societies were established at Peterborough, Doncaster, and Stamford ; but the one formed here, under the auspices of *Maurice Johnson*, flourished for many years, and was composed of several gentlemen,
eminent

eminent for literary talents. The minutes or records of the meetings contain many valuable hints and discoveries: in the style of corporate antiquity, they modestly assumed, for their house of meeting, the denomination of “ a *Cell* to that of London:” to which society transcripts of their minutes were regularly sent for upwards of forty years.

The above named MAURICE JOHNSON, a native of this place, and son of Maurice Johnson, Esq. steward of the courts, was educated under that eminent scholar Dr. Jurin. He afterwards studied at the Inner Temple, London; was appointed steward of the Soke, or manor of Spalding, then belonging to the Duke of Buccleugh; and also of Kirkton, the property of the Earl of Exeter. An early member of the society of antiquaries, he displayed, through the whole of his life, an ardent love of science and literature. He was the intimate friend of Stukeley, Gale, and others, who were celebrated for antiquarian research; and was the founder of the Spalding society, so congenial to his own taste; which, by his zeal and attention, continued to flourish till his death, on the sixth of February, in the year 1755*.

At PINCHBECK, about three miles north of Spalding, are some considerable remains of an ancient mansion, which formerly bore the name of *Pinchbeck Hall*, from a family of that name. Being afterwards possessed by the Otway family, it then acquired the appellation of *Otway Hall*. It appears to have been originally a large building, and was erected about the time of Henry the Eighth. It was moated round, and a few of the windows have pointed lights, with square heads. The chimnies are singularly lofty, and the gable ends have at the sides and centre spire-shaped ornaments, each crowned with an ornamental ball. In the gardens of this mansion was discovered, in the year 1742, a large brass coin of *Commodus*; on the reverse, a woman sitting on a globe,

* An eulogium of his character, written by his friend Dr. Stukeley, is preserved in the minutes of the society of antiquaries.

globe, with her right hand extended, and in her left, a victory. In the following year several pipes of baked earth were found here. The house has lately been purchased by a farmer, who resides in it. About eight miles south of Spalding is

CROYLAND, OR CROWLAND,

A town of very remote antiquity, and peculiarly interesting to the antiquary, from the ruins of its once splendid and extensive abbey, and its singular triangularly-shaped bridge. Some writers, particularly Dr. Stukeley, have supposed that the Romans had a settlement here, from the various ancient remains of that people, which have been discovered in the vicinity; but this is not very probable. The situation was not adapted for a military station, nor would it be selected for a villa. Early in the Anglo Saxon dynasty it was however occupied; and we are informed that Ethelbald, King of Mercia, founded a monastery here, and dedicated it “to the honour of St. Mary, St. Bartholomew, and St. *Guthlac* *.” The history of Croyland is involved in that of its monastery, which constitutes the chief and almost only prominent artificial object of interest or curiosity. It appears from the charter of Ethelbald, that the lands belonging to the abbey, comprehended “the whole island of Croyland, formed by the four waters of *Shepishee* on the east; *Nene* on the west; *Southce* on the south; and *Asendyk* on the north; in length four leagues, in breadth three,

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with

* This Saint was the son of a Mercian nobleman, named *Perwald*, and his mother's name was *Tetha*. At an early period of life he distinguished himself in the army; but having completed his twenty-fourth year, he renounced the world; and became a monk under the Abbess *Elfrida*, in the monastery of *Repton*. “By divine guidance he came in a boat to one of those solitary desert islands, called *Cruland*, on St. Bartholomew's day; and in an hollow, on the side of an heap of turf, built himself a hut in the days of *Conrad*, King of Mercia; when the Britons gave their inveterate enemies, the Saxons, all the trouble they could.” *Gough's Hist. and Antiq. of Croyland*.

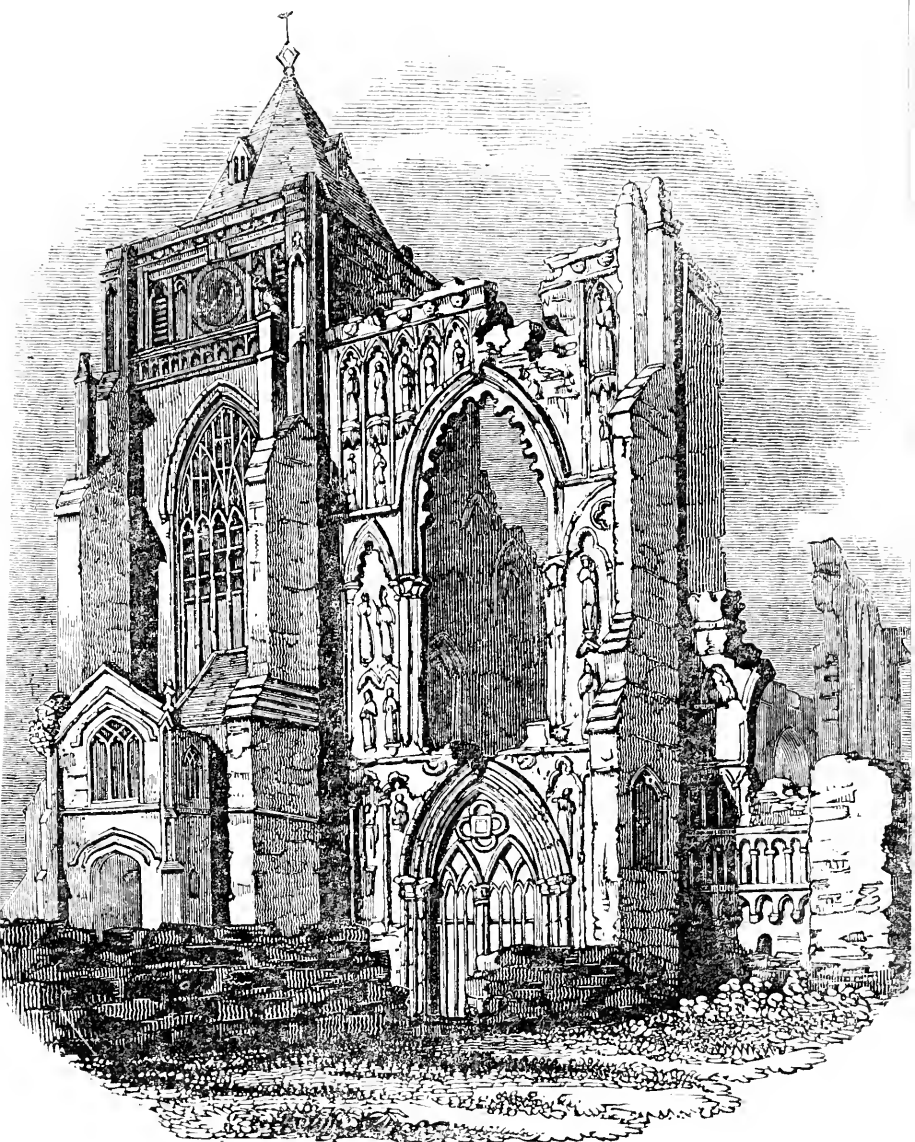
with the marshes adjoining on both sides the Weland, part of which to the north, called *Goggisland*, is two leagues long from Croyland bridge to *Aspath*, and one league broad from the Weland south to *Apenhall*, and another part of the marsh south of the Weland, two leagues long, from Croyland bridge to South-lake; and two leagues broad from the Weland to Fynset, with fishery in the waters of Nene and Weland." The charter is dated A. D. 716, and witnessed by Brithwald, Archbishop of Canterbury; Winfred, Archbishop of the Mercians; Ingwald, Bishop of London; Aldwin, Bishop of Litchfield; Tobias, Bishop of Rochester; Ethelred, Abbot of Bardney; Egbert, Abbot of Medeshamsted; Egga, Earl of Lincoln; Luric, Earl of Leicester, &c. The monarch further gave towards the building of the monastery, 300 pounds in silver, and 100 pounds a year for ten years to come; he also authorised the monks to build, or inclose a town for their own use, with a right of common for themselves and their servants. The foundation being in a marshy soil, the builders were obliged to drive piles of oak and ash, before they began to raise the edifice; indeed this appears to have been first constructed with timber, for Ingulphus says, that the *wooden* oratory of Guthlac was succeeded by a church, and house of *stone*, in which dwelt a succession of religious persons.

" Nunc exercet ibi se munificentia regis
Et magnum templum, magno molimine condet *."

After the massacre of the monks at this place, and destruction of the abbey by the Danes, A. D. 870, King Ethelred, to gratify his favourite and Chancellor *Turketyl*, or *Turketule*, restored the alienated lands about the year 948; and encouraged him to rebuild the abbey; which was began, but not completed, till the succeeding

* Gough's History and Antiquities of Croyland Abbey.

The original charter in Saxon characters, the initial letters and crosses gilt, was shewn to the Society of Antiquaries by Mr. Letheuiller, in the year 1734.



REMAINS OF CROYLAND ABBEY.

succeeding reign. In the year 1091, a most calamitous event befel the monastery, which Ingulphus in his history pathetically describes. This was a desolating fire, which was occasioned by the carelessness of a Plumber, “whereby was cruelly laid waste the habitations of the servants of God.” In the year 1112, under the auspices of its Abbot *Joffred*, it was again rebuilt; and the account of the manner in which it was accomplished, tends to illustrate the spirit of the times. The relation of Peter Blesensis demonstratively proves, that however different the acceptation of the terms may be, superstition and enthusiasm are intimately allied; and that the former is the base, while the latter is the superstructure. The abbot obtained of the archbishops and bishops remission of a *third part of the penance enjoined for sins*, to all who would assist in the pious undertaking. Under this commission *Joffred* dispatched the monks, as preaching mendicants, in every direction, to solicit alms for the purpose; and having procured by these, and other means, a tolerable fund, he appointed the festival of *St. Perpetua and Felicitas*, for the ceremony of laying the foundation stone. Numbers of the nobility, clergy, and commonalty assembled on the occasion. After the service of mass was ended, the abbot laid the first stone, at the eastern end; then the nobles, and others, a stone in turn; and upon the respective stones were laid sums of money, grants of lands, institutions to churches, rectorial and vicarial tithes, &c. Others contributed stone, labour, &c. according to their means and situation in life. On all these benefactors the abbot, when he had finished the discourse, which he addressed to them, while the stones were laying, bestowed a share in the prayers and services of the church, with the before recited episcopal indulgences; and after pronouncing his blessing, the whole were invited to a sumptuous repast. It is related that more than five thousand persons were present at this solemnity. The monastery from this period rapidly rose in fame, and the celebrity of its monks, for their learning and piety, procured for it most ample benefactions, and it progressively increased in wealth and splendour. At the dissolution,

its annual revenues were estimated by Speed, at 1217l. 5s. 11d. The site was granted, in the fourth year of Edward the Sixth, to Edward Lord Clinton. After the abbey had lost its ecclesiastical inhabitants, the building soon fell into a dilapidated state; and during the civil wars of the seventeenth century, when the place was a garrison, first for the Royal, and then for the Parliamentary forces, it suffered still further devastation. The only remain at present, is a portion of the conventual church, which is highly interesting to the architect and antiquary. The choir, central tower, transepts, and the whole of the east end are down: what portions at present are found standing are the skeleton of the nave, with parts of the south and north aisles; the latter of which is covered over, pewed and fitted up as the parish church. This portion is said to have been built by Abbot Bardney, in the year 1247. The roof is groined, and the south side separated from the nave by pointed arches, which have been walled up. The nave, in ruins, is one hundred forty-four feet in length, and twenty-eight in breadth. The nine pointed arches on the north side were filled up to enclose the north aisle; and on the south side remain six pointed arches, about eleven feet wide, and part of another. These have mouldings, descending to the ground, without column or band. Over these is part of an upper tier of windows, with three mullions in each. At the east end of the nave is a large semicircular arch, with zigzag mouldings, which spring from very singular capitals. The part of the west-front, which stands at the end of the south aisle, exhibits four tiers of arcades; the lowest of which displays a row of narrow round arches with zigzag mouldings; and those above have pointed arches. The entrance to the nave was by a handsome pointed archway with quatrefoiled head, containing figures in basso relievo: over which was the large west window, ornamented in the same stile. The whole of the front of the nave is highly decorated with niches and canopies, in which are various sculptured figures, representing St. Peter, and other apostles, with effigies of kings, saints, and abbots. One of which is said to be a representation of King Ethelbald, the founder



By the Institution of P. J. G. & Co. 1842.

CRICKLAND BRIDGE,

Engraved by J. G. & Co. from a sketch by W. G. G. 1842.

founder of the abbey. Another is acknowledged to be St. Guthlac, the saint of the fen country, by a whip placed in his right hand, emblematic of the discipline he used to bestow on himself. The whole front is in a very ruinous condition *. At the west end of the north aisle is a tower crowned by a low spire ; and some part of the wall, and piers of the arches, belonging to the south aisle, are yet standing. In a canopied niche, in the wall of the tower, belonging to the north aisle, is a curious circular *stone-font* ; which, from its form, appears to be very ancient ; and probably belonged to a baptistery of the abbey in the Saxon period. The nave and aisles are said, by some writers, to have been executed by William de Croyland, “ Master of the Works,” in the time of Abbot Upton, between the years 1417 and 1427.

Next to these venerable ruins, the *triangular bridge*, in the middle of the town, may be regarded as an object of “ the greatest curiosity in Britain, if not in Europe †.” The singularity of its shape has induced some persons to suppose, that it was emblematic of the Trinity ; and built rather for the purpose of exciting admiration, than for real utility ; and its steep ascent on all sides has been adduced as supporting such a suggestion. From this circumstance, carriages generally go under it ; but it is easily passed by horse and foot passengers ‡. The form it assumes, and the steepness of its approach, both arise from the situation in which it is placed. The rivers Welland, Nene, and a drain called Cat-

3 B 3

water

* Figures of these statues, as they appeared in the year 1730, are engraved in Carter’s “ Specimens of ancient sculpture, now remaining in this kingdom.” P. 4.

† Gough’s History of Croyland Abbey.

‡ There is a bridge, which has been mentioned as *similar* to this, upon the road between St. Omer’s and Calais, in France. It was erected about the year 1754, over a part of the road crossed by two canals, at right angles. The bridge consists of four circular arches, supported by four abutments, uniting in the centre. It is called, *Pont Sans Parcel*.

water flow under it, and in times of flood, had it not been considerably raised on the abutments, it would have been liable to be swept away by the torrent. By its being mentioned in a charter of King *Edred*, as the *triangular bridge* of Croyland, and in preceding charters simply as the bridge of Croyland; it has been conjectured that it was built antecedent to that charter's being granted, which was about the year 941. Mr. Essex, however, doubts this, and thinks that the present bridge was erected not earlier than the time of Edward the First, or Second*. If any thing can be deduced from the statue placed against the wall, it is probably anterior to either of the above periods.

This *Statue* is said to be a representation of King Ethelbald. From the extreme rudeness of the figure, the disproportion of the parts, the uncouthness of the head-dress, drapery, &c. it is probably a genuine specimen of Saxon sculpture. The figure is placed in a sitting posture, at the end of the south-west wall of the bridge. It has a crown on the head, behind which are two wings, the arms bound together, round the shoulders a kind of mantle, in the left hand something like a truncheon; and in the right, is a globe. The late Mr. Hunter supposed, that it represented King *Henry the Second*; and Willis calls it a figure of *St. Guthlac*. The former conjecture is improbable from the rudeness of the sculpture, and the latter is done away by the crown fleury on the head. The bridge consists of three piers or abutments, whence spring three pointed arches, which unite their groins in the centre. The whole is formed of stone, and at the middle of it three roads meet, the ascent is steep from each point, and the road is pitched with pebbles.

Though formerly a place of such celebrity, Croyland is now reduced to the size of a large village; and little more than the ruins of its former splendour remain. It had formerly a market, which was removed to *Thorney*, as a more eligible place; and all attempts

* Observations on Croyland bridge, published in Gough's History of Croyland Abbey.

attempts to bring it back, have proved fruitless. The fair, which used to continue for twelve days, is still held on St. Bartholomew's day. By the returns under the late act, it appears, the number of houses was 229, and of inhabitants, 1,245. This village is so surrounded with fens, as to be inaccessible, except from the north and east; in which directions the road is formed by artificial banks of earth. From this singular situation, it has been compared to *Venice*. The inhabitants are principally occupied in grazing, attending geese, or in the business of the dairy. Many derive a livelihood from the sale of fish and wild fowl; but for the privilege of catching them they pay to the crown 300*l.* per annum. The granting this privilege was formerly vested in the monastery.

The manor and estates belonging to the abbey, are said to have been bounded by certain stone *crosses*, most of which are destroyed or down. The form, inscriptions, and appropriations of which have furnished themes for several different dissertations of antiquaries. That called *St. Guthlac's*, is still to be seen near Brothertoft turnpike, on the road to Spalding. It is of a square pyramidal shape, tapering upward from one foot four inches, at the base; but the top of the shaft is broken off. The alternate sides are equilateral; and one of its faces bears an illegible inscription. Governor Pownall thought it referred to the names of five brethren, left in the house when refounded by Turketyl. The first words are sufficiently distinct, "*Aio hanc petram.*" And Camden thus would read the remainder, "*Guthlacus dabit sibi metam.*"

KESTEVEN, the third great division of the county, is bounded on the north and north-east by the river Witham, which separates it from Lindsey; on the east by the division of Holland; on the south by the river Welland; which divides it from Northamptonshire; and by parts of Nottingham, Leicester, and Rutland-shires, on the west. This district is subdivided into ten wapen-

takes, and contains seven market towns, viz. BOURNE, CORBY, MARKET DEEPING, FOLKINGHAM, GRANTHAM, SLEAFORD, and STAMFORD, with 181 parishes. The features of this division are very diversified, and the soils greatly varied: the western part is fine arable, as well as grazing land, and parts of it are well wooded; more particularly the wapentake of Beltisloe. About Sleaford is a tract of fertile pasture land, sufficiently dry for sheep; and yet calculated for fattening large cattle. The variations of soil are nearly all in a longitudinal direction from north to south. The south-western part contains some handsome seats of the nobility and gentry, and abounds with woods, particularly about Belton, Denton, and Grimsthorpe. The eastern side of the division is low and swampy, partaking of the nature of the adjacent marsh lands in the division of Holland. The south-western part was at a former period denominated a forest, as well as fen; and formed part of the possessions of Leofric Earl of Mercia, who was Lord of Brune and the adjoining marshes. In the time of King Henry the First it was enlarged and afforested by royal mandate. The extent, as described by Dugdale, "was from the bridge of East Deeping, now Market Deeping, to the church of Swaiston, on the one side; and from the bridge of Bicker, and Wragmere Stake, on the other side; which Metes divided the north parts, and the river of Welland the south; excepting the fen of *Goggisland*, in regard it was a sanctuary of holy church, as belonging to the abbey of Croyland. And being thus made forest, it continued so until King Henry the Third's time, who, in the 16th year of his reign, granted unto all the inhabitants within the same, that it should thenceforth be disafforested*." "The men of Kesteven gave 250 marcs to have the king's charter, for deforesting this of Kesteven according to the boundaries contained in that charter†."

This

* Dugdale's *Imbanking and Draining*, p. 194, 195. The patent was confirmed by King Edward the Third, in the twentieth year of his reign.

† Mag. Rot. 14. Hen. III. Linc. m. 2, 6, as quoted in Gough's *Camden*.

This division having been mostly inclosed, drained, and cultivated, contains much rich and valuable land.

BOOTHBY GRAFFO Wapentake, high division, contains the parishes of *Boothby, Coleby, Harmston, Navenby, Skinnard, Swinethorpe Hamlet, Welbourne, Wellingore*;—low division, *Aubourn, Bassingham, Bontham, Carlton in Moorlands, Doddington, Eagle, Waddington, Hykeham North, Hykeham South, Norton Disney, Scarle North, Skellingthorpe, Stapleford, Swinderby, Thorp on the Hill, Thurlby, and Wisby.*

Through this wapentake a Roman road passes from Lincoln to *Brough*, a village just without the bounds of the county, where Stukeley and Horsley endeavour to fix the ancient station of CROCOLANA.

At EAGLE, or EGLE, was a Commandry of knights templars, who had the manor granted them by King Stephen. It afterwards was possessed by the hospitalars; and upon their suppression, in the thirty-third year of Henry the Eighth, it was granted to Thomas Earl of Rutland, and Robert Tirwhit.

In the chancel of NORTON DISNEY church is the figure of a woman, with a cross and four shields: round which is this inscription: “ Ici gist Joan que fust la femme moun Gillam Disni, et file moun Sire Nicolas de Lancforte Deu cite merci de sa alme. Amen*.”

“ In the same church is a brass plate, put up about the middle of the reign of Elizabeth, commemorating William Disney, Esq. Sheriff of London, 1532; and Richard Disney, Esq. his eldest

son

* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. pt. 1. Intro. cix.

son and heir, burgess for Grantham, 1554, and Sheriff of Lincolnshire, 1557 and 1566; with their wives and issue. At the back is a long inscription, in the German or Low Dutch language, recording the foundation of a chantry on the Continent*."

In the parish of BOOTHBY, or BOOTHBY GRAFFO, are the ruins of SOMERTON CASTLE, situated about eight miles south of Lincoln. The original building was erected about the year 1305, by *Anthony Bec*, bishop of Durham, who presented it to King Edward the First; by whom it was afterwards granted to William de Beaumont. In this castle *Sir Saier de Rochford*, who proved himself a valiant soldier in the French wars, undertook, in the thirty-third year of King Edward the Third, to keep safely the King of France, then a prisoner in England. For which service he was to be allowed *two shillings per day*†. From the present remains we are justified in supposing that the whole must have been a noble and capacious building. An outer and inner moat inclosed a rectangular area of considerable extent. The dimensions of which are about two hundred, by two hundred and fifty-one feet.

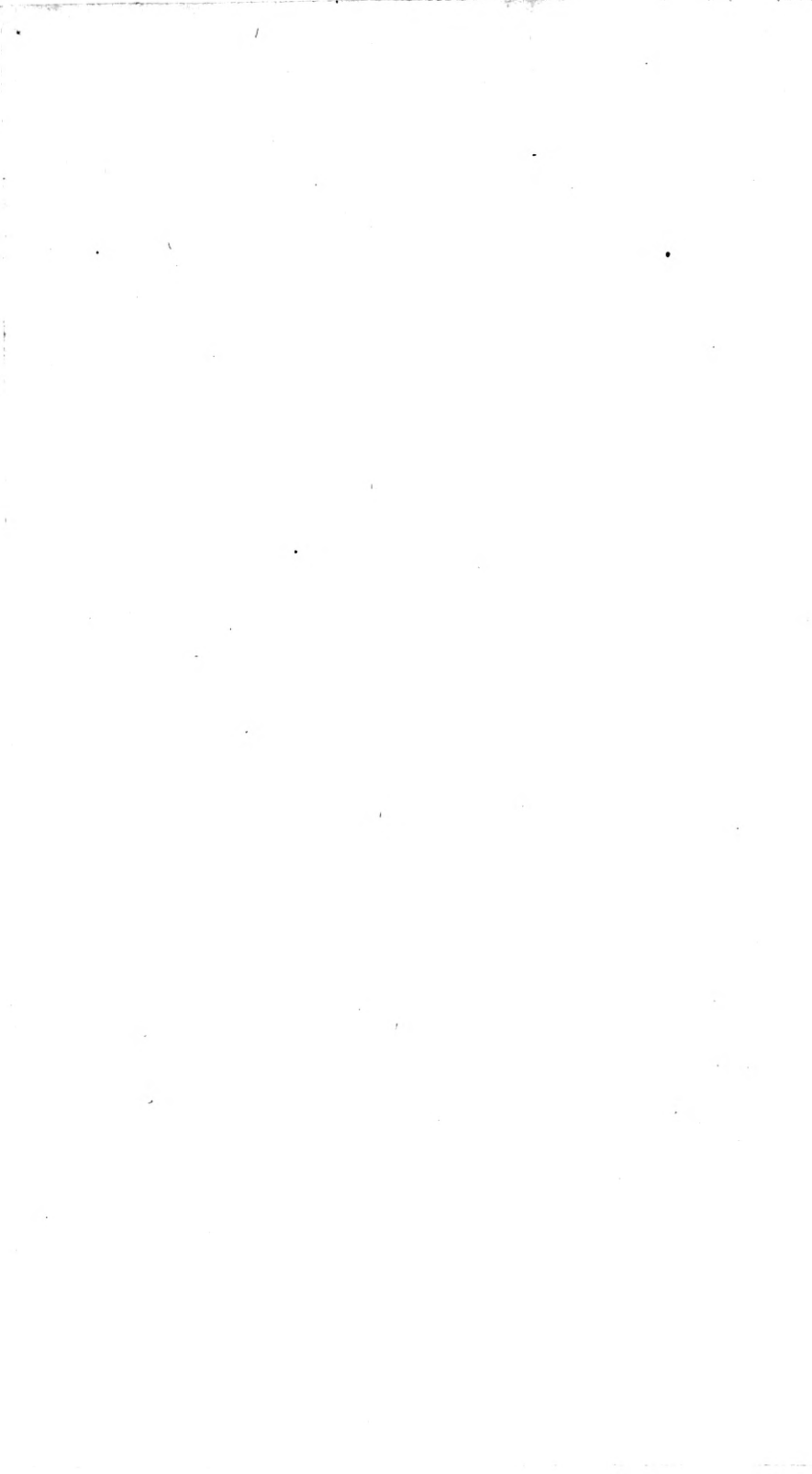
At the angles of the area are the remains of four circular towers, which appear to have been formerly connected by intermediate buildings. The south-east tower is nearly entire, and the upper part surrounded by a parapet, out of which rise three pinnacles; and in the centre an octangular spire-shaped roof. The south-west tower, in ruins, contains an octangular apartment, with eight niches; in one of which is the door way. The north-west tower is nearly in the same state, and that on the south-west exhibits a similar construction, except, that in every niche is a pointed window. In the remains of the north-east tower is an apartment with a curious vaulted roof, supported by an umbilical pillar, from which spring twelve arches, forming in the wall as many niches; in each of which is a pointed arched window. This interesting ruin is the property

* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. pt. 1. Intro. cxxii.

† Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. p. 131.



DENSTON PILLAR.



property of Montague Cholmondley, Esq. of Easton, and is at present, with some adjoining buildings, occupied as a farm house.

LANGOE WAPENTAKE, first division, contains the parishes of *Billingham, Dogdyke, Kirkby Green, Kyme North, Martin* hamlet, *Thorp, Tinley, Timberland, Walcott* hamlet. Second division; *Blacknyc, Dunston, Heighington* township, *Metheringham, Nocton, Potterhanworth, Scopwick, and Washingborough.*

In the parish of DUNSTON, at the distance of about five miles and a half south from Lincoln, is a lofty column, called DUNSTON PILLAR. It stands in a square area, which is planted with trees, and enclosed by a wall. It is a plain quadrangular stone shaft, of a pyramidical shape, towering to the height of ninety-two feet, with an octagonal lantern, fifteen and a half feet high, crowned with a fane at top. The lantern is surrounded by a ballustraded gallery, resting on a cornice. From the summit is an extensive prospect, including, with a great extent of the surrounding country, the cathedral and city of Lincoln. The different faces of the pillar bear each an appropriate inscription. On the north side, *To Lincoln v miles;* south side, *From the city CXX miles;* east side, *Dunston Pillar;* west side, *Columnam hanc utilitati publicæ, D. D. D. F. Dashwood, M.DCC.LI.* The heath being then an extensive waste, and the roads intricate, it was of great utility; but since that period, the lands having been inclosed, the roads fenced, and mile stones erected, it only now remains as a monument of the benevolence and public spirit of the person who caused it to be raised.

Upon a high ridge of land, called *Cliffrow*, near the Roman road,

road, and seven miles from Lincoln, is COLEBY HALL, the seat of General Bertie. It is a fine old house, to which additions have been made in a more modern style, and is surrounded with plantations. The entrance into the grounds is by an arch, which was intended to imitate the ruin of a Roman gateway. The gardens are ornamented by two temples: a small one upon the terrace is of the Doric order, dedicated to the memory of the late Earl of Chatham; the other, built upon the model of the temple of Romulus and Remus, at Rome, from a design of the late Sir William Chambers, is said to be the first building which he ever erected in England, that displayed the taste of this eminent architect.

NOCTON PARK, about two miles and a half north-east from *Dunston Pillar*, and seven miles south-east of Lincoln, is the handsome seat of the Earl of Buckinghamshire. It is recorded, that in the time of King Stephen, Robert de Arci, or D'Arci, erected, in his *park* at Nocton, a priory for black canons of the Augustine order. At the time of the dissolution, it had five monks, whose annual revenues amounted, according to Speed, to the sum of 57l. 19s. 2d. The site was granted by Henry the Eighth to Charles, Duke of Suffolk; and in the time of Elizabeth, it was bestowed by the crown on Sir Henry Stanley, Lord Strange. By the Stanley family it was converted into a residence; but the greater part of the old house was afterwards taken down, and the present mansion rebuilt by Sir William Ellys, Bart. in the latter end of the seventeenth century. The house is a handsome building, for that period, consisting of a body with two wings, the angles turretted, with cupolas at top; and in the centre rises an octangular cupola, or lantern. The grounds were planted and laid out agreeably to the formal prevailing taste of the times, but have been much altered and improved by the present noble proprietor. The prospects are numerous, varied, and extensive; and near the mansion stands a chesnut tree, considered the finest of the kind in England.

At

At CATTELEY, in the parish of *Billinghoy*, was a Gilbertine *Priory*, founded by *Peter de Bilingey*, in the time of King Stephen, for nuns and brethren of the order of Sempringham. At the dissolution, the annual endowment was, according to Speed, 38*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* The site was granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Robert Carr, of Sleaford, whose father was a rich merchant of the staple*.

FLEXWELL WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Anwick*, *Ashby*, *Bloxholme*, *Branswell*, *Cranwell*, *Digby*, *Dorington*, *Leasingham*, *Rauceby North*, *Rauceby South*, *Rowlston*, *Rorholme* hamlet, *Ruskington*, and *Sleaford New*, including the hamlet of *Holdingham*.

In the north-western angle of this wapentake, at the distance of about ten miles from Lincoln, are the ruins of

TEMPLE BRUER, which formerly was a religious house. "Here was, before A. D. 1185, a preceptory, first of Knights Templars, and after of the Hospitalars, who had annexed such possessions to it as were valued, twenty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, at 184*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum, as Dugdale and Speed†." The church is said to have been built after the model of that of St. Sepulchre, at Jerusalem. "There be great and vaste buildinges," says Leland, "but rude at this place, and the este end of the temple is made *opere circulari de more ‡*" At present only a few vaults, and the tower of the church are left. The latter is a massy quadrangular building, and is accessible to the top by a winding stone staircase. The lower part, used by the occupier of an adjacent farm house, is nearly entire; has
a window

* Tanner's Notit. Monast.

† Tanner's Not. Monast.

‡ Itinerary, Vol. I. f. 32.

a window with a double pointed arch, and the entrance is by a retiring circular-headed door-way. Opposite Temple Bruer, Stukeley describes his having seen a stone cross, "cut through in the shape of that borne by the Knights Templars," and which he supposed was erected to mark the boundary of their demesnes. "The Hermin Street hereabout is very bold and perfect, made of stone, gathered all along from the superficial quarries. It goes perfectly strait from *Ancaster to Lincoln*, full north, butting upon the west side of Lincoln town. 'Tis about thirty foot broad, made of stone, piled into an easy convexity. There is generally likewise a little trench dug on both sides the road*."

SLEAFORD, OR NEW SLEAFORD,

A considerable market town, distant south from Lincoln fourteen miles, is situated upon a small rivulet, called the *Slea*, which rises in the vicinity, and runs to *Chapel Hill*, where it joins the river Witham. Many Roman coins, of the Constantine family, have been found about the spring head, near the castle. Stukeley, from this and other circumstances, conjectures that this was a Roman town. "We find the distance between *Caster* and *Lincoln*," says he, "about forty miles, and has two towns upon it, at proper intervals for lodging; these are *Sleaford* and *Stanfield*. The original name of them are in irrecoverable silence; but the eternity of the Romans is inherent. 'Tis probable that Alexander, the Bishop of Lincoln, built his work upon the scite of a Roman citadel. Beside, at Sleaford comes in the other Roman road from the fen country, by *Brig End Causy*, and at the intersection of these two roads the old town stood†." The work here alluded to was the castle, which, in Leland's time, was standing, and is thus described by him. "Without the towne of Sleaford standith, west-south-west, the propre castell of Sleaford, very well mantayned; and it is compassed with a renning

* Itin. Curios. p. 82.

† Itin. Curios. p. 8.

ning streme, cumming by a cut oute of a little feene, lying al-
moste flatte weste against it. In the gateway be two portcullices,
a high toure in the middle of the castelle, but not set upon a
hill of raised earth: the vaults of the castle by the ground be
fair. The house, or manor place, lately almost new, buildid of
stone and timbre by the Lord Husey, standith southward with-
out the town. The town nor market is of no price; the orna-
ments of it is the Bishop of Lincoln's castle and the late Lord
Hussey's house*." Since Leland's time, however, Sleaford has
become a different place, and is at present improving, both as to
buildings and population. The castle has been wholly levelled
to the ground, and Lord Hussey's mansion, at Old Sleaford, is
now a farm house.

The church is a handsome, spacious structure, and, from a
manuscript found in the parish chest, it appears to have been
built in the year 1271, by Roger Blunt and Roger Brickham, of
Sleaford, *merchants*. It was dedicated to St. Dennis, and en-
dowed A. D. 1277. It consists of a chancel, nave, transept,
and north and south ailes, with a tower, crowned by a spire,
which rises to the height of 144 feet. The western front is
curious, and rather elegant in its design and ornaments. It has
three entrance door-ways, each having a differently shaped arch;
and above these are three windows, also varying from each other.
Part of this façade displays the circular style, which was prob-
ably erected by Bishop Alexander. The windows, pinnacles, and
ornaments, are all greatly diversified, and some of them particular-
ly elegant. In the chancel are several monuments to the family of
CARR, some of whom were long resident in the neighbourhood;
one to the memory of Joseph Carr, who died September 11th,
1590; another to Sir Edward Carr, who died October 1st, 1618;
and a third to Robert Carr, Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster,
and a privy counsellor, who died November 14th, 1682.

By Joseph Carr, one of this family, a *free school* was erected,
and liberally endowed, in the year 1603; and also an *hospital*
for

* Itinerary, Vol. I. fol. 30.

for twelve poor men. The manor and estates came by marriage with an heiress of the Carr family, to the present Earl of Bristol. The petty sessions are held in this town, which has a well supplied market on Mondays, and four annual fairs. The number of houses returned under the late population act was 533, and of inhabitants 1,483.

At KYME, about three miles from Sleaford, in Leland's time, was "a goodly house and park." Philip de Kyme, in the time of King Henry the Second, built here a priory for black canons, of the order of St. Augustine, to the honour of the Blessed Virgin. Willis, in his History of Abbies, observes, that this house, in the time of Henry the Eighth, was *surrendered* to the king by the prior and nine canons. Its annual revenues were valued at 138l. 4s. 9d.

In the twenty-first year of Henry the Eighth, *Sir Gilbert Talbois* was created Baron Talbois, of Kyme. He lies buried in the church, under a marble slab, on which is a brass plate, with this inscription:—"Gilbert, Lord Talbois, Lord of Kyme, married Elizabeth the daughter of Sir John Blount, Knight, of Kinlet, in Shropshire; and died 15th of April, A. D. 1530." His widow was the celebrated mistress of that lecherous monarch, Henry the Eighth; and it is more than probable that the *coronet* was the *doceur* for the infamous connivance of Talbois at his own dishonour.

About four miles east of Sleaford is HAVERHOLME PRIORY, the seat of Sir Jenison William Gordon, Bart. The house and grounds occupy an area of about 300 acres, which constitute an island, formed by two branches of the river Stea. This manor was given, "by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, to the Cistercian monks of Fountain's Abbey, in Yorkshire, about the year 1137, that they might build an abbey of that order; but after having made some progress in the same, they pretended not to like the situation, and thereupon removed to Louth Park. The good
bishop

bishop quickly disposed of the island here, to the nuns and canons of the new and strict order of St. Gilbert, of Sempringham, who settled there A. D. 1139, and continued till the general dissolution, when their income was rated at 88l. 5s. 3d. per annum.—Speed. The site was granted, the thirtieth of Henry the Eighth, to Edward Lord Clinton*.” The present possessor of Haverholme made numerous additions to the old remains in the year 1788, and has formed a mansion in a style corresponding with the importance of the place.

LOVEDON WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Ancaster, Beckingham, Bimington Long, Broughton Brant, Carlton Scroope, Caythorpe with Friston, Cluypole, Doddington Dry, Fenton, Foston, Fulbeck, Hough on the Hill, Hougham, Leadenham, Marston, Normanton, Stragglethorpe, Stubton, and Westborough.*

ANCASTER is situated on the great Roman road, called Ermine Street, which is here denominated *High Dyke*. Here has evidently been a Roman station; and though Dr. Stukeley is positive as to the CAUSENNÆ of the Itinerary being at *Great Ponton*, yet the author of the *Britannia Romana*, from a comparison of the situation and circumstances of the two places, with much more probability fixes it here. The situation is low, and a brook flows at the north end of the village. The foss and rampart, according to Horsley, might easily be traced out †. “What was its Roman name I know not; but it has been a very strong city, entrenched, and walled about, as may be seen very plainly, for the most part, and perceived by those that are the least versed in these searches; the bowling-green behind the Red

* Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*.

† *Britannia Romana*, p. 433.

Lion Inn is made in the ditch. When they were levelling it they came to the old foundation. At this end of the town, where a dove-coat stands, is *Castle Close*, full of foundations appearing every where above ground; the ditch and rampire encompasses it. Here are prodigious quantities of Roman coins found. Many people in the town have traded in the sale of them these thirty years*." The coins are of various emperors. One, a denarius of Otho, found here, is in the cabinet of the Earl of Sandwich. Harrison† observes, that Mosaic pavements have been discovered at Ancaster. All which circumstances make it probable that this was the *Causennæ* of Antonine. It is, however, proper to observe, that the numbers, as they stand in the Itinerary, do not support this conjecture; neither will they agree with Great Ponton. However, "as it is impossible that Ancaster should be the place, if the numbers be just, so it is impossible any other place between Ancaster and Great Ponton should be it; for between these two places is nothing but bare heath, not a drop of water, not a village nearer than half a mile, no mark of a station, no coins found; but the plain, perfect, uninterrupted high ridge all the way‡." CAUSENNÆ, in the fifth Iter, is placed between DUROBRIVIS and LINDUM, thirty miles from the former, and twenty-six from the latter. This creates a difficulty respecting the station, which Horsley thought was best removed by supposing, that a transposition had occurred of the numeral VI, or that XXX. and XXVI. were, through mistake, set instead of XXXVI. and XX. over against the names CAUSENNIS and LINDO. Admitting this supposition, the general distance is preserved, and the particular distances exactly answer by placing CAUSENNÆ at *Ancaster*.

The church, and four carucates of land, in LONG BENNINGTON being given by Ralph de Filgeriis, or Fulgeriis, to the
abbey

* Stukeley's Itin. Curios. p. 80.

† Description of Britain, Vol. II. p. 17. ‡ Stukeley's Letter to Horsley

abbey of Savigney, in Normany, before A. D. 1175, here was founded an *alien priory* of Cistercian monks, subordinate to that foreign monastery. During the wars with France, it was seized into the king's hands, and given by Richard the Second to the Carthusians of St. Anne's, near Coventry. Its revenues were then valued at 50l. per annum. But after the suppression of the order, it was given, in the ninth year of Henry the Fifth, to the priory of Mountgrace; and as parcel of the possessions of this last mentioned monastery, this manor of Long Bennington was granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the Eighth*.

ASWARDHURN WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Asgarby, Aswarby, Aunsby, Burton Pedwardine, Culverthorpe, Ewerby, Eredon, Hale Great, Hale Little, Heckington, Helpringham, Howell, Ingoldsby, Kelby, Kirkby Laythorpe, Quarrington, Screddington, Sempringham, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford Old township, South Kyme, and Swarby.*

BURTON PEDWARDINE formed part of the large estates of Alan de Crean, or Craon, who was of the noble family of Anjou, and the most illustrious in France of those who came into England with William the Conqueror. Of this family Stukeley has given a genealogy, commencing with *Andrew de Craon*, who lived about A. D. 940. The estate, by marriage, came to Roger de Pedwardine the second, who rebuilt the church, and St. Mary's chapel on the north side; but the south aisle, and St. Nicholas's chapel, were built at the expence of the parish.

At INGOLDSBY is a circular encampment, which comprehends

3 C 2

* Notitia Monastica.

hends an area of about 500 feet in diameter. Here are some tumuli, called the *Round Hills*.

The church of ASWARBY has an elegant tower and spire; and adjoining the village is the mansion and park of Sir Christopher Whichcote, Bart.

WINNIBRIGGS AND THREE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Allington, Borrowby, Boothby Pagnell, Harrowby, Haydor, Honington, Humby Little* hamlet, *Ponton Little, Ropsley, Sedgebrook, Somerby, Spittlegate, Haughton* and *Walton* hamlets, *Stoke North* hamlet, *Stroxton, Syston, Welby, Wilsford, Woolsthorpe*, and *Wywell and Hungerton*.

AT LITTLE PONTON various Roman remains have been discovered at different periods. In this village is a handsome modern mansion, begun by the late Lord Witherington, who built the south side. Additions were made by Mr. Day, who bequeathed it to Mr. Prettyman; the latter gentleman erected the west front; and it is now the residence of his son, William Prettyman, Esq. The house, which is handsomely built of stone, though erected at different times, preserves an uniformity of plan, and is situated on a fine lawn, surrounded by plantations of luxuriant growth. About a mile from the village of

HONINGTON, is a small *Roman* summer camp, which was defended by a double foss and vallum. Near it vast quantities of coins, contained in urns, have been found.

ROPSLEY is famous for having been the birth-place of *Richard Fox*, Bishop of Winchester, who built and endowed the free school of Grantham, from which circumstance he is said, by the author of "*The Magna Britannia*," to have been a native of that





that town. He received his education in the university of Cambridge, and became president of Pembroke Hall, to which seminary, on his demise, he bequeathed some curious hangings of tapestry, with a *for* interwoven in the pattern. Removing from college to the court, he commenced politician, and soon made a distinguished figure. He was not only instrumental in establishing the claim of King Henry the Seventh to the kingdom, but also continued to be one of his principal cabinet ministers after he was settled on the throne. For these eminent services the prince rewarded him by preferment to the valuable bishopric of Winchester. But in his exaltation he appears either to have forgotten, or purposely overlooked, his *alma mater*; for he bestowed a portion of his great wealth in founding Corpus Christi College in Oxford. He continued in the see twenty-seven years, and was buried in his own cathedral. At the village of

WOOLSTHORPE, near Belvoir Castle, about forty years ago, under an idea that coal might underlay this part of the country, the Duke of Rutland had the ground bored to the depth of 169 feet, where a stratum of *soft coal*, fourteen inches thick, was discovered. The miners bored deeper, but without further success. They again bored at *Braunston*, three miles to the west, to the depth of 469 feet, but no coal was found; nor did the strata appear similar to that at Woolsthorpe.

GRANTHAM, with the SOKE, contains the parishes of *Barkstone, Braceby, Belton, Colsterworth, Denton, Easton* hamlet, *Grantham, Gonerby Great, Harlaxton, Londonthorpe, Manthorpe, Ponton Great, Sapperton*, and *Stoke South*, alias *Stoke Rochford*.

GRANTHAM,

A market and borough town, is the principal place in the soke, or wapentake, to which it gives name, and over which it exercises exclusive jurisdiction. In Stowe's Chronicle, Grantham is said to have been built by Gorbomannus, King of Britain, 303 years prior to the Christian era. Such stories are entitled to little credit; but it appears from history, that Grantham possessed peculiar privileges at an early period, and was the residence of a suffragan bishop*. At the time of the Norman survey, this place was held in royal demesne; for in Domesday Book it is recorded, that Editha, Queen of Edward the Confessor, had a manor in Grantham, and twelve carucates at Geld. Maud, William the Conqueror's Queen, held the town and soke as part of the king's demesne. In the forty-second year of King Henry the Third, that monarch being greatly distressed by the parliament, which refused to grant him supplies, among other plans for raising money, mortgaged, to his uncle, William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, the towns of Grantham and Stamford.

Near the point, where a small stream, called the *Mowbeck*, joins the Witham, formerly stood the *castle*; but no traces of the building remain: and the only evidence that the town had a castle, arises from the adjoining street being called *Castlegate*; and the description in ancient deeds of certain tenements, which belonged to the chantry of St. Mary, as situated in *Castle Dyke*. The names of the three other principal streets of the present town, called Westgate, Watergate, and Swinegate, evidently denote that Grantham was once encompassed with a wall, but no vestiges of it are now to be seen. On the 22d of March, 1642, this place was taken, for King Charles the First, by the forces under the command of Colonel Charles Cavendish, who made

360

* This ecclesiastical officer was appointed to assist the bishop of the diocese, and called by Sir Edward Coke, "a bishop's vicegerent."

360 prisoners, with all the captains and officers, together with three loads of arms and ammunition, and afterwards demolished the works*.

“About this time,” says De Foe, “it was, that we began to hear of the name of *Oliver Cromwell*, who, like a little cloud, rose out of the east, and spread first into the north, till it shed down a flood that overwhelmed the three kingdoms. When the war first broke out, he was a private captain of horse, but now commanded a regiment; and joining with the Earl of Manchester, the first action in which we heard of his exploits, and which emblazoned his character, was at *Grantham*, where, with only his own regiment, he defeated twenty-four troops of horse and dragoons of the king’s forces†.”

Near the south entrance into the town, on *St. Peter’s*‡ hill, formerly stood an elegant *Cross*, erected by King Edward the First, in memory of Eleanor his queen, who died 1290, this being one of the places where the corpse was laid in state, in its way for interment in Westminster Abbey. *Grantham* had several *religious houses*, ruins of which may still be seen. A *priory* of *grey* friars, called also franciscans, from the founder of their order, and *minorites* from their assumed humility, was founded here A. D. 1290. “The *Angel Inn*, which took its name from some representations of angels cut in stone, with several other religious devices about the building, was a commandery of the Knights Templars§.” The front of this inn displays some curious grotesque ornaments, and has three projections, with mullioned windows, &c.

3 C 4

The

* *Mercurius Belgicus*.

† *Memoirs of a Cavalier*.

‡ “Of the church dedicated to St. Peter, said to have stood here, I have not been able to find any traces, except the mention made of the chantry of St. Peter, in *Grantham*.” *Turnor’s Collections for the History of the Town and Soke of Grantham*.

§ *Turnor’s Collections*, &c. p. 37.

The following notices are contained in an index written by Bishop Sanderson. "Spittlegate hospital, 2 Edward IV. Richard Bloer, master. 13 Henry VII. Mr. Thomas Isham, master of the hospital of St. Leonard, otherwise called rector of the parochial church of Spittal*."

In the present *church*, and in that of St. Peter's were five chantries, respectively dedicated to Corpus Christi, St. John, St. George, the Blessed Virgin, and the Holy Trinity. The two latter of which were given by King Edward the Sixth for the further endowment of a free school. The Church, consisting of a nave, with spacious north and south aisles, and lighted by large handsome pointed windows, is celebrated for the elegance of its spire. At what time the present church was built is not recorded. The style of architecture is that prevalent in the thirteenth century; though Mr. Gough observes, that it was endowed by Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, A. D. 1100. The crypt under the south aisle of the church, now used as a charnel house, is the most ancient part of the building, and probably formed part of the former church, which was endowed as above described. The church underwent considerable repairs in 1628, the estimates of which amounted to 1450*l*. In 1651 the top of the steeple was blown down, and rebuilt by subscription, as appears by a table, containing a list of benefactors on that occasion, placed in the church. In 1797 it suffered by lightening, which displaced a stone on the south side, and broke off two or three of the crockets, which fell through the roof into the church. This elegant part of the fabric consists of a quadrangular tower, containing three stories, the first of which is lighted by one mullioned window on each side; the second by pairs of windows, with pointed arches; and the third by one large window, with two smaller lateral ones, having triangular heads. At each angle of the parapet, which is pierced with quatrefoils, is an hexangular crocketed pinnacle. Over this, in beautiful proportion, rises its octagonal spire, ornamented

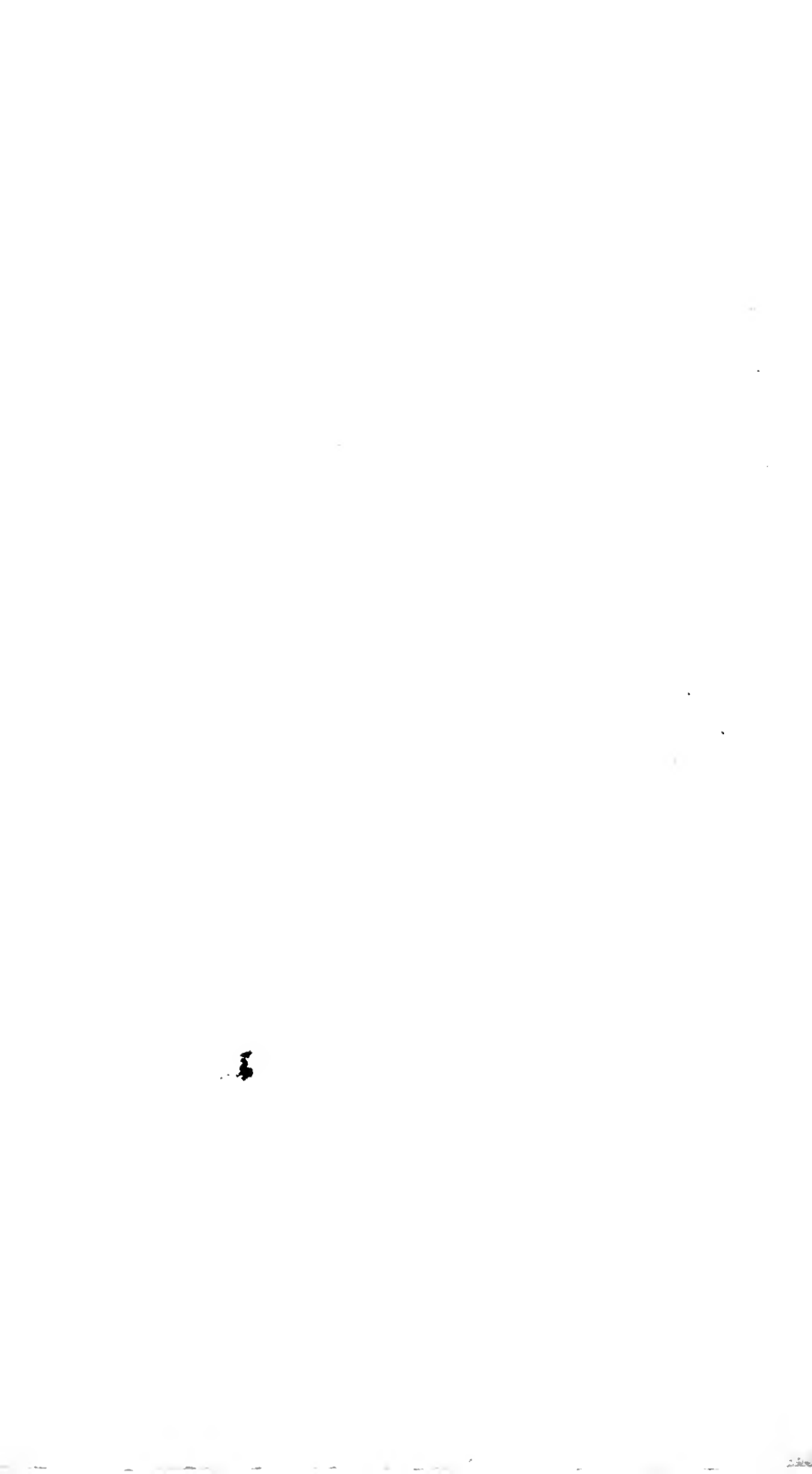
* Sanderson's Index, p. 629, as quoted by Tumor.



View of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul, from the River.

GRANTHAM CUTLER & Co.,

Printed and Published by the Author, at the Office of the



namented with crockets on the angles, and at three several distances, encircled with windows, having triangular heads. The height of the tower, to the battlements, is 135 feet, and thence to the top of the weathercock 138, making together 273 feet. The nave, or choir, as it is called, including the chancel and side aisles, measures in length, inside, one hundred and sixteen feet, and eighty feet in breadth.

Within the church are several handsome monuments to the memory of different families of distinction. One to *Sir Thomas Bury, Knight*, Lord chief Baron of the Exchequer in the time of George the First. A sumptuous marble monument, with the figure of justice, and a medallion representing *Lord Chief Justice Ryder*, who died May 5th, 1756, a day before the patent could pass by a warrant issued for the purpose of creating him Baron Harrowby. A magnificent monument, consisting of a pyramid of blue marble, and a sarcophagus of white, and a bust ornamented with various naval trophies, with the arms of Cust, to the memory of *William Cust, Esq.* "a brave and judicious sea officer, who having signalized himself in a series of dangerous and successful enterprizes, was unfortunately killed by a cannon ball, March 8th, 1747; erected by his uncle, the late Right Honourable Viscount Tyreconnel."

The *font* in this church is a handsome specimen of ancient sculpture. It stands upon a pedestal of two steps. The shape is octangular. The base of the shaft is ornamented with heads and alternate roses. On the shaft are statues of various saints placed in niches; and round the font, under crocketed canopies, many figures in basso relievo. These are intended to represent the seven sacraments.

The vestry has been fitted up to receive a large number of books, which were left by the will of the late Rev. John Newcome, D. D. Master of St. John's College, Cambridge. He was a native of Grantham, and bequeathed them as a public library, for the use of the inhabitants in the town and neighbourhood.

In

In the church of Grantham were founded two vicarages, distinguished by the names of North and South Grantham, to the former of which were annexed the livings of North Gunnerby and Londonthorpe, and to the latter South Gunnerby and Braceby. These are in the patronage of two prebendaries, who bear the same names in the cathedral church of Salisbury; and were granted to that church by a charter of Bishop Osmund, dated the 5th of April, 1091, at Hastings; where it was confirmed by William Rufus, in the fourth year of his reign. The want of houses for the residence of the vicars was supplied by the pious bequest of Bishop Saunderson, and the two vicarages, with their profits, were consolidated in 1714, under the name of "the united vicarage of Grantham;" from which time the two prebendaries were to have the alternate right of presentation.

Grantham was first incorporated under a charter granted by King Edward the Fourth, A. D. 1463. The jurisdiction of the corporation extends over the whole soke, and "the general sessions of the peace for the town and soke, are held by warrant of the alderman, directed to the bailiff of the liberties, who acts as sheriff of the town and soke, the sheriff of the county having no authority within the soke and district thereof*."

The *guild-hall* was rebuilt under an act obtained for the purpose in the year 1787, by a rate levied upon the soke; in addition to which the Duke of Rutland and Lord Brownlow gave each 300l. to erect a large apartment for the occasional accommodation of the corporation, and to serve as an assembly-room for the use of the town.

A *free school* was founded here by Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, and further endowed by King Edward the Sixth with the possessions of two dissolved chantries. The school-house of stone attracts attention, from the circumstance of its having been a place of education to that astonishing genius, Sir Isaac Newton, who here studied the classics for several years.

Grantham

* Turnor's Collections for the History of the Town, &c.

Grantham sends two members to the British senate, has a weekly market on Saturdays, and five annual fairs. From the returns under the population act, the number of houses is 651, occupied by 3,303 inhabitants.

Without Spittlegate, at what is termed *Grantham Spaw*, a salutary spring rises out of sandy ground, the water of which is a mild chalybeate, contains a small portion of aerated iron, and is specifically lighter than common spring water.

A *Canal* has lately been cut from Grantham to the river Trent, an extent of twenty-five miles. It is supplied with water by means of large *reservoirs* made for the purpose. The *level line* from Grantham to Woolsthorpe Point is supplied by a reservoir, which covers twenty-seven acres of land, in the parishes of Denton and Harlaxton. This is fed by the flood waters of Denton rivulet. The other part of the line, from Woolsthorpe Point to the Trent, has a fall of one hundred and forty feet, and is supplied by a reservoir, comprising fifty-two acres, at Knipton. In 1798 the sum of 114,734*l.* had been expended on the undertaking; at which time the tonnage amounted to 4381*l.* since that period it has annually averaged more. The chief articles conveyed by this navigation are corn and coals.

BELTON HOUSE, two miles north of Grantham, the residence of Lord Brownlow, is situated on a beautiful lawn, in a finely wooded valley, through which flows the river Witham. The reversion of the manor and estate of Belton, after the death of Sir Henry Pakenham and Jane his wife, was purchased by Richard Brownlow, chief prothonotary in the court of common pleas, in the year 1620. The present mansion house was begun by Sir John Brownlow, Bart. in the year 1685, from designs, it is conjectured, of Sir Christopher Wren, and finished in 1689. The form of the building, like many houses of the same period, is that of the letter H; which, though not approved of by modern architects, possesses considerable advantages in point of convenience and utility. The house, built of stone, presents four
uniform

uniform elevations, without any architectural decorations. The apartments are numerous, lofty, and well-proportioned. Several are ornamented with excellent carving by Gibbons, and the chapel is wainscotted with cedar.

In the year 1776, the late Lord Brownlow employed that distinguished architect, James Wyatt, Esq. to make improvements in the building. By his direction a cupola and balustrade were removed from the roof; the drawing-room, which measures forty feet by twenty-seven, was raised to the height of twenty-two feet, and a new entrance was added at the south front. In several of the apartments are many good pictures by eminent masters, of the Flemish and Italian schools, with numerous family portraits by Lely, Kneller, Reynolds, Romney, and others. Amongst them is a peculiarly fine one of Sir JOHN CUST, Bart. Speaker of the House of Commons, in his robes, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; a half length copy of which by Ruysen, a present of the late Lord Brownlow, is in the state apartments of the Speaker of the House of Commons. The founder of this stately fabric had the honour of a visit from King William the Third, who, on his progress through the northern countries, was entertained at Belton house the 29th of October, 1695. Previous to that event he had obtained, in 1690, a licence of the king and queen, to form a park of his lands in Belton, Londonthorpe, and Telthorpe, which he enclosed with a wall five miles in circumference, and at the same time he made numerous plantations; the trees of which, now become large timber, are highly ornamental to the place. His nephew, Sir John Brownlow, K.B. created 1718 Viscount Tyrconnel, fitted up the library with a choice and valuable collection of books, and formed gardens of great extent and magnificence in the prevailing taste of that age; these have since been modernized and laid out in a style more congenial with rural scenery.

The church at Belton is a small ancient structure*. The
tower

* The arches of the nave and the font are probably of the 11th century.

The manor and advowson were, at the dissolution of monasteries, in the possession of St. Mary's Abbey in the City of York.

tower has on it the date 1637, at which time it was re-built by Richard Brownlow, Esq. The chancel also was re-built by Dame Alicia Brownlow, who died 1721. The church is kept extremely neat, and in the south window are six pieces of modern stained glass, representing parts of scripture history. Within the nave and chancel are many fine monuments to the memory of the families of Brownlow and Cust.

At the village of DENTON, anciently spelt DENTUNE, was discovered in the year 1727, a *mosaic pavement*. It lay about eighteen inches beneath the surface, and was composed of white, red, and blue tessellæ; forming a pattern, which consisted of squares and lozenges. The lozenges were ornamented with chequer work, and the squares with gordian knots; it measured about thirty feet square. This formed the floor of a room, which Dr. Stukeley, who examined the place, supposed was the site of a Roman villa. A view of this pavement has been engraved by Mr. Fowler, who discovered part of another pavement, eight feet square, composed of similar colours, but of a richer pattern: this is also engraved in his "collection of Roman pavements." Near this place passes a Roman vicinal way, called *Salter's road*.

On the Denton estate is a *spring* of very pure water, similar to that of *Malvern Wells* in Worcestershire. The spring is much frequented, and many medical virtues are ascribed to its waters.

The church is a small structure, and contains some monuments to the Williams's, the Welby's, and the Cholmley's. An almshouse was erected and endowed by William Welby, Esq. in the year 1653, for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance in money, and an annual allowance for coals. Eastward of the church is a school-house, which is endowed for twenty-four poor children. Formerly there were three families of distinction in this parish, the Thorold's, the Williams's, and the Welby's. Some remains of houses belonging to the former are still standing in the village. The Welby's came from Gedney, in the division of
Holland,

Holland, in which church are several ancient monuments to the memory of the family.

DENTON HOUSE is the property and residence of Sir William Earle Welby, Bart. M. P. The mansion, which is a large handsome building in the modern style, has received considerable additions from the proprietor. It stands on a fine elevation, in a well planted park, which is generally, and deservedly admired for the pleasing irregularity of the ground, and for the fine woods and water with which it is highly ornamented.

Woolthorpe

In the western corner of this Soke, eight miles south of Grantham, is the village of COLSTERWORTH, which will ever be celebrated in the records of history, for having given birth to that great luminary in the hemisphere of science, SIR ISAAC NEWTON. Of whom it may be more justly said, than of any person who has either preceded or followed him :

“ Ergo vivida vis animi pervicit et extra
Processit longe flammantia mœnia mundi
Atque omne immensum peragravit mente animoque.”

Lucretius, Lib. 1.

Isaac Newton was born at the manor house of *Woolthorpe*, a hamlet in this parish, on Christmas-day 1642; about three months after the death of his father, who was a descendant from the elder branch of the family of John Newton, Bart. and was lord of this manor. When a child, Isaac lived with his maternal Grandmother Aiscough, and went to two small day schools, at Skillington, and Stoke, till he was twelve years of age. At which time he was sent to the free grammar-school of Grantham, where, under the tuition of Mr. Stokes, he shewed a partiality for mechanics, and displayed early tokens of that uncommon genius, which afterwards “ filled, or rather comprehended the world.” After continuing at Grantham a few years,

years, his mother took him home, for the purpose of managing his own estate; but his exalted mind could not brook such an occupation, and he returned again to school. Soon afterwards he went to Cambridge, where he was admitted into Trinity College the fifth of June, 1660. The first books he read with his college tutor, were *Sanderson's Logic* and *Kepler's Optics*. A desire to discover, whether there was any truth in the pretensions of judicial astrology, a science then popular, induced him to study mathematics. And having discovered its fallacy, in a figure he raised for the purpose, from a few Problems in Euclid, he ever after discarded the contemptible study. He however at that time turned aside Euclid, looking upon it as a book containing nothing but obvious truths, and applied himself to the study of Descartes's Geometry. To try some experiments on the doctrine of colours, advanced by that philosopher, he purchased a prism, in the year 1664; when he discovered the hypothesis to be erroneous, and at the same time laid the foundation of his own theory of light and colours. About that period he discovered the method of *infinite calculus*, or *Fluxions*; the invention of which was claimed by Leibnitz, although it has been proved*, that the "Lecalcul differential" was borrowed from the English philosopher. In the year 1665, having retired to his own estate, on account of the plague, the falling of an apple from a tree in his garden first suggested his system of gravity. And it is a singular case, that he laid the foundations of nearly all his discoveries before he was twenty-four years of age; and communicated them in loose tracts and letters to the Royal Society. Of those an ample account is given in the "*Commercium Epistolicum*." In 1667 he was elected fellow of his own college, and Dr. Barrow resigned the professorship of mathematics to him in 1669. In 1671 he was elected fellow of the Royal Society. In 1688 he was returned by the University of Cambridge to the Convention Parliament, in which he sate till its dissolution. The Earl of Halifax, then Chancellor

* "*Commercium Epistolicum*, D. Johannis Collins, et aliorum de Analysis præmata: jussu Societatis Regiæ in lucem editum, 4to. Londini, 1712."

Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a great patron of learning, obtained for him the appointment of Warden of the Mint. This afforded him frequent opportunities of employing his time and skill in mathematics and chemistry; and occasioned him to produce his table of "Assays of foreign Coins," printed at the end of Dr. Arbuthnot's "Book of Coins." In 1697, he received from *Bernovilli* a celebrated Problem, which was intended to puzzle all the mathematicians in Europe; but our philosopher solved it in a few hours. In 1699, he was made "Master and Worker of the Mint;" and in 1701 he appointed Mr. Whiston his deputy in the Mathematical Chair at Cambridge, allowing him the whole emoluments for the performance of its duties: though he did not resign the professorship till 1703; in which year he was chosen President of the Royal Society. This situation he held till his death, which happened the 21st of March 1726-7. He had previously received the honour of knighthood from Queen Anne, at Cambridge, in the year 1705. Sir Isaac was of the middle stature, of a comely aspect, temperate in his diet, and of a meek disposition. He was courteous and affable; and modesty and generosity were eminently conspicuous in his character. He was never married, and the manor and estate descended to the heir at law, Mr. John Newton, who sold it to the family of Turnor, of Stoke Rochford; and is now the property of Edmund Turnor, Esq. of that place*. The manor-house is still standing.

" Here NEWTON dawn'd, here lofty wisdom woke,
And to a wondering world divinely spoke.
If Tully glow'd, when Phædrus' steps he trod,
Or fancy formed philosophy a God;
If sages still for Homer's birth contend,
'The sons of science at this dome must bend.
All hail the shrine! all hail the natal day;
Cam boasts his noon, this *col* his morning ray."

HARLAXTON,

* Memoirs of Sir Isaac Newton, sent by Mr. Conduitt, to Monsieur Fontenelle, in 1727, and published in Turnor's "Collections for a History of the Town and Soke of Grantham."

HARLAXTON, a small village, situated on the turnpike-road leading from Grantham to Melton, and three miles distant from the former place, has a handsome church with a beautiful spire. Some of the windows are singular in their form, having circular heads, each contained within a square label. The manor, and principal part of the property of Harlaxton, belonged in the time of Henry the Seventh to a family of the name of *Blewitt*; one of whom it is supposed built the old and curious *Manor House*. This underwent many alterations by a subsequent possessor, Sir Samuel de Ligne. The house is built of stone, and on the south side it is guarded by a broad and deep moat, with a bridge over it. The entrance into the outer court is by an arched gateway, and the inner court is separated from the outer by a handsome balustrade. Some of the windows are pointed, and others have square labeled heads. The grand gallery, which is one hundred feet in length, fourteen wide, and eleven feet high; and the dining room, which is forty feet by thirty-one, were superbly fitted up; and the windows richly decorated with painted glass, by Sir Daniel de Ligne. In the great bow windows are coats of arms of de Ligne, de la Fontaine, de Cordes, and other relations of the de Ligne family, who emigrated together, and became refugees in this country. In other windows are emblematical devices, and representations of events, recorded in scriptural and profane history. Several fine portraits of the *de Ligne* and *Lister* families, executed by *Cornelius Janssen*, are here preserved. One of these, which has excited particular interest, is that of *Susanna Lady Lister*, painted in her wedding dress, by C. Janssen, 1626, when Lady Thornhurst. She was considered the most distinguished beauty of her time, and was presented in marriage to Sir Geoffry Thornhurst, by King James the First, in person. The present proprietor, who is lord of the manor, is George de Ligne Gregory, Esq. In the year 1740, an *Urn* was found here, it contained burnt bones and coins of Gallienus, a Claudius Gothicus, and of other emperors, with a seal inscribed, “*Sigillum comitatus Cantabridgiæ.*” In the fields near

this village, near the mansion, as a man was ploughing, he discovered a stone, and under it a brass pot, in which was a *helmet of gold*, set with jewels; and also silver beads, and “corrupted writings*.” The helmet, supposed to have formerly belonged to John of Gaunt, who had a hunting seat here, was presented to Catharine, Dowager Queen of Henry the Eighth, and deposited afterwards in the cabinet of Madrid.

GREAT PONTON, or PAUNTON, an ancient village, is situated on the river Witham, three miles and a half south of Grantham, and near the Ermine-Street. In this place, and at *Little Ponton*, an adjacent village, have been found numerous Roman coins, urns, bricks, mosaic pavements, arches, and vaults. Stukeley observes, that this “must needs be the CAUSENNIS.” With this opinion Salmon coincided, and agreed with him to place the OLD PONT-TEM at east *Bridgford*, in Nottinghamshire. But Horsley fixes it at Southwell. Ponton has probably been a station, though it does not appear to fall under any one mentioned in the Itinerary. “The fosse way, partly paved with blue flag stones laid on edge, runs by this place from Newark to Leicester†.” The Church, which is a fine building, was, according to Leland, completed A. D. 1519, at the expence of Anthony Ellis, Esq. merchant of the staple, who lies interred in the chancel; and whose arms are represented on the different parts of the steeple, with the motto, “*Thynke, and thanke God of all.*” It is justly admired for its proportion, has eight ornamental pinnacles at top, and is seventy-eight feet high.

Six miles south of Grantham is STOKES ROCHFORD, or SOUTH STOKES. Its church, which serves for the parishes of Stokes Rochford, North Stokes, and Easton, Bishop Sanderson describes as fair and well built, having “a chancel with three quires and
goodly

* Leland's Itin. Vol. I. fol. 31.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 250.

goodly windows, and sundry monuments." A handsome marble monument records the ancestors of the *Turnor* family, proprietors of this place; and a very elegant throne, with four kneeling figures in the habit of the times, was erected here by Montague Cholmeley, Esq. A. D. 1641: a descendant of whom, of the same name, has a mansion in the hamlet of Easton.

On a brass plate, fixed on a marble slab, in the floor of the chancel, is this inscription:

"Pray for the soll of mastyr Olyř. Sentsehn, squier, sonne unto ye right excellent hye, and mighty pryncess of Som̃sete g̃ndame unto oũ soveyn Lord Kyng Herre the VII. and for the soll of dame Elizabeth Bygod his wiff, whoo dep̃ted from this f̃nsitoze liffe ye xii. day of June, ĩ ỹ year of oũ Lord M,CCCCC and III." The family of St. John, ancestors of the present Lord Bolingbroke, was connected by marriage with that of Rochford, and formerly resided here.

STOKE HOUSE, the residence of Edmund Turnor, Esq. was built in the year 1794, out of materials belonging to an old mansion house, erected by Sir Edward Turnor, about the middle of the seventeenth century. The park is small, but abounds with picturesque features, and in it is a pleasing small cascade, formed by the water of a single spring*.

An handsome stone building in this village, containing six sets of apartments for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance in money, and an annual allowance for coals, was erected and endowed in the year 1777, by Sir Edmund Turnor; no less eminent for his loyalty, than he was exemplary by his charities. He took part with Charles the First, and in the year 1651 he was captain

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of

* The great spring at Holywell, in Flintshire, is supposed to throw out twenty-one tons of water in a minute. This, in Stoke park, discharges nineteen tons in a minute. They both come out of Limestone, and never freeze. *Pennant's Hist. of Holywell*, p. 225 as quoted by Mr. Turnor, in his collection,

of horse, and taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester. As a reward for his services, he was appointed to several lucrative offices, and knighted in 1663.

AVELAND WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Aslackby, Billingborough, Birthorpe, Bourne, Dembleby, Dowsby, Dunsby, Dyke and Canthorpe* hamlet, *Folkingham, Haceby, Haconby, Horbling, Kirkby-Under-wood, Laughton, Morton, Newton, Osbournby, Pickworth, Pointon, Rappingale, Spanby, Swaton, Threckingham cum Stow, Walcot, and Willoughby Scott.*

In the village of ASLACKBY was a Commandry of Knights Templars, founded by John le Marechal, about the time of Richard the First. It was subsequently occupied by the hospitallers; and at the suppression the site was granted to Edward Lord Clinton. A farm-house, where formerly stood the circular church, still retains the appellation of the *temple*. A square embattled tower, consisting of two stories, yet remains. The lower story is vaulted, and the vault is composed of eight groins. In the centre, where these meet, are eight shields, with various coats of arms, and the middle one is charged with a cross. Round the outside of the tower, near the top, are several large brackets. The parish church, at a small distance on the opposite side of the road, is a large handsome building, having a square embattled tower at the west end.

Here formerly stood a Castle, which is said to have been built by one of the Wakes. But in this, both Camden and the Author of the *Magna Britannia* were mistaken. For a castle appears to have existed here as early as the year 1062, before the Wakes possessed the manor. Leland observed, that in his time "there appeared great ditches, and the dungeon-hill at the west end of the priory, also much service of the Wakes' fee was done to it; and that every fadary knew his station and place of service." The building is entirely destroyed, but the earth works on the west side
are

are nearly entire. The area within the outer moat is about eight acres; between the moat and ditch are very large irregular works, on the north and west sides. They consist of raised banks about twenty yards in length, and ten in breadth, with a ditch between each.

BOURNE, OR BURN,

Is a market town, situated in a flat country adjoining the fens. Contiguous to the town is a large spring, which discharges a sufficient quantity of water to supply three mills near its source. The earliest notice on record respecting this place is in the time of the Saxons, when Camden states, on the authority of Leland, that it was notable for the inauguration of Edmund, King of the East Angles, A. D. 838. This, however, is proved to be an error, by Mr. Gough, who says, that the Saxon monarch was crowned at a place called Buers in Suffolk. Ingulphus, after noticing several benefactions to the Abbey of Croyland, says, “Leofric, lord of the castle of *Brunn*, a famous and valiant soldier, kinsman to the great Count Radin, who married King Edward’s sister Godo, gave many possessions to this abbey; and on many occasions assisted the monks with his counsel and favour*.” This Leofric had a son Werward possessed of the *castle* and estates of Burn or Brunn, who dying without issue, they were presented by William Rufus to Walter Eitzgilbert, or Fitzgislebert†.” Baldwin, Lord Wake, in the eighth year of King Edward the First, A. D. 1279, obtained a licence for a market weekly on Saturdays, and one annual fair. This was a life grant, as the same privilege was conferred on the place at the request of Thomas Lord Wake, his grandson, in the second year of Edward the Second.

An abbey was founded here by Baldwin, son of Baldwin Fitz-

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gislebert,

* History of Croyland, folio 899.

† Bishop Gibson’s Edition of Camden, p. 462.

gislebert, to whom the castle was granted about the year 1138, who placed in it an abbot and canons of the Augustine order. According to Dugdale, its annual revenues amounted, at the dissolution, to the sum of 167l. 14s. 6d. per annum.

The Church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a handsome building, and formerly had two large square towers at the west end, one of which is nearly down. The church consists of a lofty chancel, a nave, with side ailes, and a short transept on the south side. The nave is separated from the ailes by circular plain arches, springing from large columns, exhibiting a specimen of the early Norman style. At the west door is a piscina and pointed arcades, over which are two lancet windows, and a large window, having four mullions, with tracery. On the outside of the south porch is another piscina.

Bourne contains a meeting-house for protestant dissenters; also *two almshouses*, each endowed with 30l. per annum, one for six poor men, and the other for six poor women. Here is also a free school, with a salary for the master of 30l. per annum.

This town has twice suffered severely by fire. The first occurring on the 25th of August, 1605, by which was destroyed that part of the town called Manor-Street, not leaving a single house standing. Again, on the 25th of March, 1637, another fire destroyed the greater part of Eastgate, or as it is written in records, *Eaugate*.

In the centre of the market place is an ancient *town-hall*, said to have been erected by one of the Wake family; but from the arms of Cecil, carved in baso relievo over the centre of the east front, it is more probable that it was built by the treasurer, Lord Burleigh. The petty sessions for the parts of Kesteven are regularly held here at Michaelmas and Christmas.

In this town a few Roman coins have been dug up, and, about fifty years ago, a *tessellated pavement* was discovered in the park grounds.

In a farm yard, within the town, is a medicinal spring, much frequented, the waters of which have a brackish taste, and a
purgative

purgative quality; very similar in their effects, but of greater strength than those of Astrop, in the county of Northampton.

A Canal has been made hence to Boston, for boats of ten tons burden. By means of this navigation some mercantile business is carried on; but the chief trade of the place is wool-stapling and tanning leather. The market, which is but little frequented, is held on Saturdays, and the town has four fairs annually. The number of houses, by the returns under the population act, were 282, of inhabitants 1,474.

That eminent statesman, and exalted character, WILLIAM CECIL, Baron Burleigh, whose loyalty to his sovereign, and unbiassed patriotism, preserved the religious establishment and civil polity of this kingdom from falling a prey to despotic tyranny and papal superstition, was a native of this place. He was born at the house of his grandfather, David Cecil, Esq. in the year 1520. In 1535 he was admitted of St. John's College, in the university of Cambridge, where, at the early age of fifteen, he read a lecture on sophistry; and at the age of nineteen he gave a Greek lecture. After leaving college he applied himself to the study of the law; and in the year 1547, having been made master of requests, he, in the following year, partook of the disgrace which fell on the Lord Protector Somerset, with whom he was sent to the Tower. After suffering three months imprisonment, he was released, reinstated in his office, received the honour of knighthood, and was chosen a member of the privy council. In 1553 he was appointed chancellor to the order of the garter, with an annual fee of 100 marks. On the death of Edward the Sixth, Sir William Cecil prudently declined taking any part in the business, which terminated fatally for Lord Dudley, and his unfortunate consort, the Lady Jane Grey. On the accession of Queen Mary he was graciously received at court; but refusing to change his religion, he was dismissed from his employments. On Queen Elizabeth's succeeding to the throne in 1558, the cloud was quickly dispelled which had lately obscured both his fortune and fame. A few days after her

accession he was sworn one of her privy council, became her chief cabinet minister, and made secretary of state. In 1561 he received the appointment of master of the wards; and in 1571 he was created *Baron Lord Burleigh*. The following year he was honoured with the order of the garter, and raised to the office of lord high treasurer of England, which distinguished situation he held twenty-seven years, performing its duties with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of his sovereign and the country. Having thus filled some of the most important situations, and guided the helm of state during the most critical and glorious period of English history, he departed this life on the 4th of August, 1598, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His remains were removed to the burial place at Stamford, where a most magnificent monumental tomb was erected to his memory. To those acquainted with the history of their country any eulogium on him would be superfluous. Suffice it to add, that Camden, in his *Annals*, observes, "He was one of those few who lived and died with equal glory. Such a man as, while others regard with admiration, I, after the ancient manner, rather contemplate with silent and religious veneration*."

The Rev. Dr. WILLIAM DODD was also a native of Bourne, where he was born in 1729. His father was vicar of this parish, and brought up this son to the church; which he lived to honour by his eloquence and erudition, and to disgrace by his fatal propensity to gallantry and fashionable dissipation. Never, perhaps, was there a clergyman whose manners and writings obtained greater patronage and admiration; yet a single act of injustice involved him in ruin, and brought him to an untimely end. Having committed a forgery on Lord Chesterfield for the sum of 4200*l.* he was arrested, committed to Newgate, tried, and convicted; and though the most powerful influence was exerted in his behalf, and various modes of preserving his life was employed, he was doomed to suffer death at Tyburn, June 27, 1777.

FOLKINGHAM

* *Annales Elizabethæ, Anno 1598.*

FOLKINGHAM

Is a small town, pleasantly situated on the side and summit of a hill, abounding with springs. The church stands at the N.W. end of the town, and consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, chancel and porch, with a room over it, and has a handsome lofty stone tower, crowned with eight crocketed pinnacles.

The manor of Folkingham was given, by the Conqueror, to Gilbert de Gaunt, who came over with him from Normandy, and eminently distinguished himself at the decisive battle of Hastings: for which service William, when he came to the throne, amply rewarded him. For in the Domesday Book it appears, that besides forty-one other lordships which Gilbert was seized of in different counties, he possessed *one hundred and thirty-one* in Lincolnshire, of which Folkingham was one. This place he made his seat, and constituted it the head of the barony. A descendant of Gilbert de Gaunt, who died without issue, 2d of January, 1274, appointed King Edward the First his heir to the manor and lands of this barony. They were, by that monarch, granted, for eminent services, to Henry de Bellomonte, or Beaumont, who was usually called “*Consanguineus Regis.*” In the family of the Bellomontes the manor continued till the time of Henry the Seventh. After that period it came into the family of the Duke of Norfolk; but being forfeited by the attainder of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, it was granted by King Edward the Sixth, in exchange for lands in the county of Worcester, to the family of Clinton. Here was formerly a Castle, probably built by Henry de Bellomonte. “From Grims-thorpe to Sempringham five miles; and a mile thence, somewhat inward, is the castle of Fokingham, sometime the Lord Bardolfe’s, since the Lord Bellomonte’s, now longing to the Duke of Norfolk. It hath been a goodly house, but it now falleth to ruin, and standeth even about the edge of the fens*.” Even
the

* Leland’s Itin. Vol. I. f. 23.

the ruins have disappeared; and the only remains to mark where once the castle stood, are the moats and mounds on the eastern side of the town.

Folkingham has a weekly market on Thursdays, and eight annual fairs. The resident population, by the returns made to government in 1801, was 531, the number of houses 100.

South-east of the town is a large *Encampment*, with a deep foss and lofty vallum. Within the area is a square keep of raised earth, defended also by a foss capable of being filled with water from the adjoining brook. Without the area, at the north-east corner, is a small fortified enclosure, intended as an advanced work to secure the water for the use of the garrison.

SEMPRINGHAM, about three miles east-south-east of Folkingham, is noted in the monastical annals of England, for giving birth to *Sir Gilbert de Sempringham*, who founded a novel religious order, and settled it at his native place. Gilbert was the eldest son of a Norman knight, and was sent to France for education. Returning thence, he took orders, and obtained great preferments; being presented to the churches of Tissingden and Sempringham, and appointed chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln. Having devoted himself wholly to a religious life, he obtained leave of Pope Eugenius III. in the year 1148, to institute a new order of monks, to be called *Gilbertines*. The singularity of the plan adapted by, and the reputed piety of the first recluse, soon attracted the attention of others, and induced numbers of both sexes to join the society. For their reception Gilbert employed his large estate in building a house, and settling on the institution an adequate endowment. The rules laid down for the regulation of the order were—1. That the nuns should follow the rules of St. Benedict, and the monks the rules of St. Augustin.—2. That the men should live in a separate habitation from the women, and never have access to the nuns but at the administration of the sacrament.—3. That the same church should serve both for divine service.—4. That the sacrament should

should not be administered to both together, but in the presence of many witnesses. Though this motley order was contrary to the law of the Justinian code, yet it long flourished, and numerous monasteries were subsequently founded, conformably to the Gilbertine scheme. The founder lived to see thirteen erected, in which were 700 men and 1100 women. He attained the great age of 100 years; and from his austerity, and many miracles having been performed after his death, according to legendary story, he was canonized by Pope Innocent the Third, A. D. 1202. For some centuries this order maintained its credit for superior sanctity; but human institutions are liable to degenerate, and the brethren and sisters, in a subsequent period, departed strangely from the continency and chastity they so solemnly and rigidly professed.

The annual revenues of the priory in Sempringham, at the suppression, were valued, according to Speed, at 359l. 11s. 7d. The monastery stood to the north-east of the church. The site is still marked by a moated area. The church, which serves the two parishes of Poyton and Billingborough, is only a part of the ancient edifice. The transepts are down, and the chancel in ruins. The windows are lancet-shaped, and the doors have circular arches, with chevron or zigzag mouldings, and evidently point out the time of its erection to have been in the early Norman period.

BETTISLOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Bassingthorpe cum Westby*, *Bitchfield*, *Burton Coggles*, *Bytham Castle*, *Bytham Little*, *Careby*, *Corby*, *Counthorpe* hamlet, *Creton*, *Edenham*, *Gunby*, *Holywell cum Awnby* chapelry, *Irnham*, including the hamlets of *Bulby* and *Hawthorpe*, *Keisby* hamlet, *Lavington*, alias *Lenton cum Hanby*, *Manthorpe* hamlet, *Osgodby* hamlet, *Skillington*, *Stainby*, *Swayfield*, *Swinstead*, *Toft and Lound* hamlet, *Witham on the Hill*,
Witham

Withan North and Twiford, including the hamlet of *Lobthorpe*, and *Witham South*.

At CASTLE BYTHAM was a fortified mansion, or castle, which belonged to Lord Hussey in the time of Henry the Seventh. In the time of William the First, this manor was the property of Odo, Earl of Albemarle and Holderness; who, having married Adeliza the Conqueror's Sister, obtained the grant of the castle, and adjoining territory, for the support of their infant son Stephen: and for the specified purpose, that they might be enabled to feed him with *wheaten bread*. William de Foxtibus Earl of Albemarle, in the time of Edward the Third, rebelled against that monarch; and fortifying his castle at Bytham, plundered the surrounding country. But the fortress being besieged by the royal troops, it was levelled with the ground. It was afterwards repaired, and long remained in possession of the family of Calville.

EDENHAM, a large parish, includes the township of *Edenham*, Grimsthorpe, Elsthorpe, and Scottlethorpe, with the site of the demesnes abbey of *Vaudey*, or *de Valle Dei*. This parish contains 6424 acres of land, which, excepting about 160 acres, belong to the Duke of Ancaster. The parish church, was formerly appropriated to the abbey of Vaudey, and the living is now a perpetual curacy in the gift of the above named nobleman, who is impropiator of the parish, and proprietor of the church-yard. The *Church* consists of a nave, with north and south ailes, a chancel, south porch, and handsome western tower. This is of more modern erection than some parts of the church, and was probably built about the time of Henry the Sixth. The western door has a flat pointed arch with quatrefoils in the groins. The ailes are separated from the nave, by four arches on each side. At the east-end of the north aile are two tablets of black marble, bordered with naval and military trophies; over which, within a garter, surmounted by an earl's coronet, is a shield containing twenty-five coats. On the first tablet is a Latin inscription to the memory of
Robert

Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey, who fell a martyr to loyalty at the battle of Edgehill, in the time of Charles the First; the sixteenth year of his age, A. D. 1642. The other tablet records the virtues and exploits of his son *H. S. E. Montacute*, who in the royal cause accompanied his father; but survived the tempestuous period, dying the 25th of July, A. D. 1656, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. A mural tablet of white marble is sacred to the memory of *Richard Bertie* Earl of Lindsey, Lord Great Chamberlain of England, who attended James Duke of York, afterwards King James the Second, and Mareschall de Turenne, at the siege of Mouzan in 1653, and that of Landrecy, 1655. He commanded a troop of horse in Ireland, and served against the rebel Duke of Monmouth: he died a bachelor the 19th of January, A. D. 1686. On the south side of the chancel is a monument of white and varigated marble, with an inscription commemorative of *Robert Lord Willoughby*, who died May 9th, A. D. 1701. Opposite to this is a rich marble monument with a handsome entablature, supported by Corinthian columns, with an inscription, stating, that in a vault beneath lie the remains of *Robert Bertie*, created *Duke of Ancaster* and Ketseven by King George the First, and who by death quitted all earthly honours, July 26th, in the year 1728. This monument was executed by L. J. Scheemakers and H. Cheere. Against the same wall is a monument consisting of a pedestal of white marble, on which is the effigy of *Peregrine* the second *Duke of Ancaster*, in a Roman dress, reclining on an urn. On the front is an inscription purporting, that he died January 1, 1741, leaving four sons and three daughters. On the south side of the chancel is a very elegant white veined marble monument, executed by Harris of London, to the memory of *Peregrine*, third *Duke of Ancaster* and Ketseven, who died in the sixty-fifth year of his age, August 12th, 1778. It also records the memory of his son *Robert*, fourth *Duke of Ancaster*, who died the 8th of July 1779; only eleven months after he had succeeded to the titles and estate.

In the village of EDENHAM, is GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, the seat of the *Duke of Ancaster*. The house is a large irregular structure, and appears to have been erected at different periods. The south-east tower is the frustrum of a pyramid, embattled at top, containing a winding stone stair case, which leads to a room having windows similar to those of many ancient castles; and was probably built as early as the time of Henry the Third. The principal part of the house was erected in the time of Henry the Eighth. "The place of Grimesthorpe was no great thing afore the new building of the second court. Yet was all the old work of stone, and the gate-house was fair and strong, and the walls on each side of it embattled, there is also a great ditch about the house*." Grimsthorpe, Fuller calls an *extempore structure*, raised suddenly by Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, to entertain King Henry the Eighth, in his progress through this part of the kingdom. The great hall was fitted up to receive a suit of hangings made of gobelin tapestry, which the duke came into possession of by his wife Mary, Queen of France. About that time the east, west, and south fronts were erected, which have embattled turrets at the angles. In the north-east tower is the kitchen, and the north-west tower contains a beautiful chapel. The ground-floor of the east front consists of offices, over which is the principal dining-room, ornamented with a collection of pictures, and fine portraits. The south and west fronts have numerous smaller rooms. The handsomest part of the building is the north front, which was erected between the years 1722 and 1723, from a design, and under the direction of that celebrated architect, Sir John Vanbrugh, who, according to Sir Joshua Reynolds, displayed more imagination in his buildings than any other architect. This front consists of two lofty wings, balustraded at top, and a pinnacle at each corner.

Elevations of the part of Grimsthorpe Castle, as designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, are published in "*The Vitruvius Britannicus*."

This

* Leland's Itin. Vol. I. fol. 26.

This magnificent structure stands in a fine park sixteen miles in circumference. On the north side of the castle is an avenue, which extends three quarters of a mile. To the south are the gardens and pleasure grounds. On the east side the view embraces the hamlet of Grimsthorpe, with the Lordship of Edenham; and on the west, a beautiful sloping lawn descends to two lakes, comprising about an hundred acres: beyond which a rising ground is terminated by a grove of forest trees.

In the park, about a mile from the present mansion, formerly stood a *Cistercian abbey*, founded by William Earl of Albemarle, about the year 1451. It was called, *VALLIS DEI*, and vulgarly *Vaundy*. Gilbert de Gamb was a great benefactor, and Ganfred de Brachecurt gave the whole of his estate at Brachecurt to it, upon condition that the monks should maintain him and his wife with two servants in all necessaries so long as they both should live; with the additional proviso, that they should have double allowance.

NESS WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Barholm, Baston, Braceborough, Carlby, Deeping St. James, Deeping Market, Deeping West, Greatford, Langtoft, Stowe, Tallington, Thurlby, Uffington, Wilsthorpe*, and the *Town of Stamford*. At the eastern end of this wapentake is

MARKET DEEPING,

A small market town, which derives its name from the situation. The land to the east of it is said to be relatively the lowest in the whole county. Ingulphus observes, that *Deeping* signifies a low meadow. He also states, that Richard de Rulos, Chamberlain to William the Conqueror, raised a lofty artificial bank to confine the waters of the river Welland, which before used frequently to overflow;

flow ; and on this bank were erected a number of houses, which formed a large village. Of this place, however, an earlier notice appears on record ; for Morcar de Bruen, a valiant soldier in the time of the Saxons, gave to the abbey of Croyland the manor of Deeping, “ cum 200 mansionibus et cotagiis 400, et 2 ecclesiis*.” This grant was confirmed by Beorred, King of Mercia, in a charter dated the eighth of the *Kalends of August*, A. D. 860. About ten years afterwards, Beorred seized the manor, with its appurtenances, and bestowed them on a person named Langfar, who was denominated, from the office he held, “ *Panetarius Regis*.”

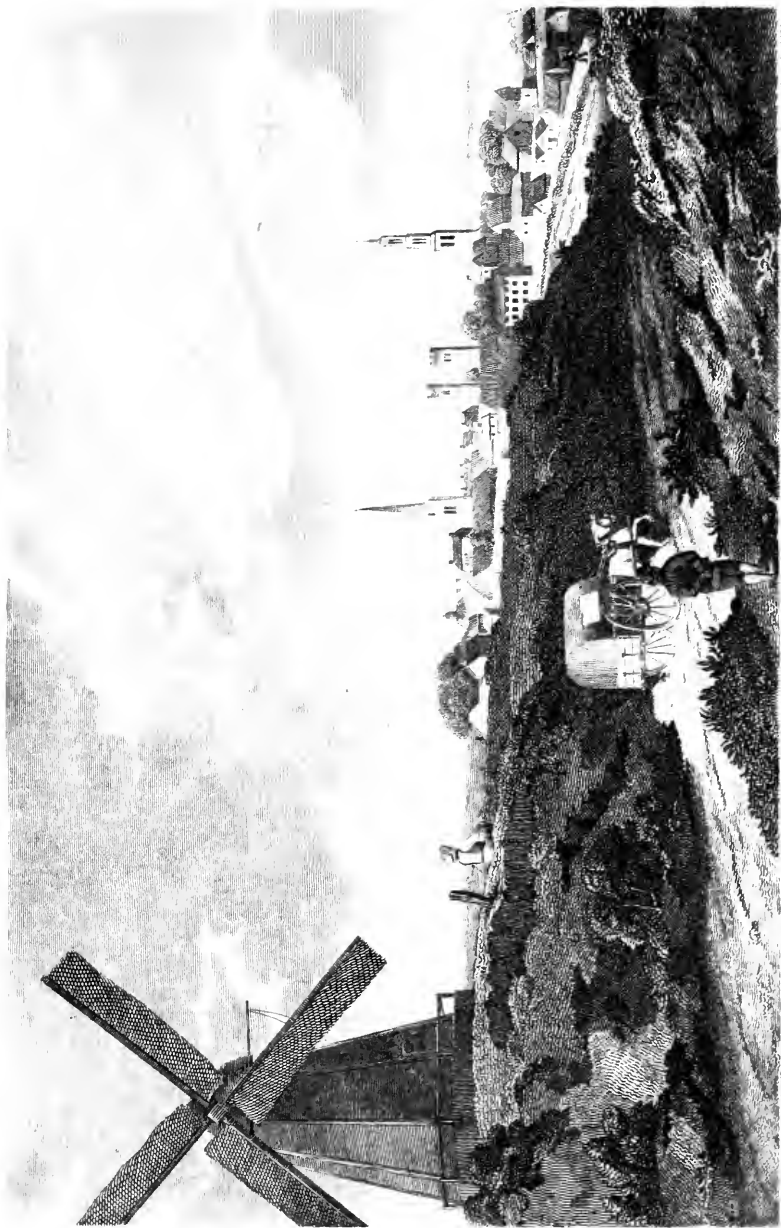
The town has a weekly market on Thursdays, and five annual fairs. The number of inhabitants returned under the late act was 803, occupying 172 houses.

At this place was born Dr. ROBERT TIGHE, who was educated in the university of Oxford, was preferred to the living of All-Hallows, Barking, in London, and afterwards appointed Archdeacon of Middlesex. Being deemed an excellent linguist and divine, he was one of the persons employed to revise and correct the translation of the Bible. His name, however, is not in Fuller's Catalogue of Translators.

At DEEPING ST. JAMES was a small chapel, erected by the monks of Croyland Abbey, for disseminating the gospel : Richard de Rulos converted it into a parish church. Here was founded a *priory* of Benedictine monks by *Baldwin Wac*, or *Wake*, in the year 1159, and given to the church and abbey of Thorney by his grandson, Baldwin, to be held free from all secular service, with the reservation of only two marks per annum, payable to the church of St. Guthlac, out of the lands belonging to the prior of St. James, in Deeping.

To the east of this village extends a large tract of marsh land, called *Deeping Fen*, which is described in the following terms by Mr. Ward, who was clerk to the trustees for inclosing this district.

* Ingulph. Hist. p. 4. § 1.



STAMFORD TOWN,
Lincolnshire.

Engraved by W. H. Smith, Drexler & Co. 1850.

For the Publisher, Drexler & Co. 1850.

district. It belonged "to several parishes, and is partly holden by persons who are free from drainage expences, by the nature of their buildings; and all the land is free from every other charge of assessment, and from land-taxes and ecclesiastical demands. But though there is no poor assessment, relief is granted by the adventurers to some poor persons who do properly belong to the district of taxable land, which expence is mixed with the account of monies expended in supporting the works. But as to the free lands, which are about one-third part of the whole, every separate farmer maintains his own poor, without any connection with others. I suppose there are not a great number settled upon them, for being aware of the peculiar burden, I believe they make such contracts for hiring, as to avoid, as much as possible, having people settled on them. I have sent below a copy of the clause in the act of parliament, relative to the maintenance of our poor, which will shew the foundation of that business, and is all, I believe, in any part of the acts respecting it, viz. 16^o and 17^o Charles II^d. p. 37. 'But all and every the inhabitants that may hereafter be upon any part of the said third part, or upon any part of the said 5000 acres, and are not able to maintain themselves, shall be maintained and kept by the said trustees, their heirs, and assigns, and the survivor of them, and never become chargeable in any kind, to all, or any of the respective parishes wherein such inhabitant, or inhabitants, shall reside or dwell; any statute or law to the contrary, whereof in any wise, notwithstanding.' The qualification is, being holder of 200 acres, or upwards. The inclosed fen was formerly part of the common belonging to several parishes adjoining. There is no church in the district; the inhabitants go to the neighbouring towns to church."

STAMFORD, OR STANIFORD,

Is an ancient borough and market town, seated on the northern bank of the river Welland, in the south-west corner of the county,

on the verge of Northamptonshire and Rutlandshire. The name is derived from the Saxon *staen*, and *ford*: that is, Stony, or *Stone-ford*. Some writers have attempted to carry the history of this place, like that of many others, up to a period, where, from the darkness of the times, all is obscurity; and from the scantiness of records, opinions respecting its state, however plausible, can be little more than conjectural fictions. Stamford is said to have been a place of note in the time of Bladud, a British king, who reigned eight hundred and sixty-three years anterior to the Christian æra. And Stow observes, that this Bladud, who was the son of Rudhudibras, built Stamford, and founded in it an university; which was suppressed by the Bishop of Rome, in the time of St. Austin. But this is evidently erroneous, for there is no mention of such a British town in the catalogue of Nennius; and the Roman geographer Ptolomy, only marks two cities of the Coritani, *Lindum*, Lincoln, and *Ratæ*, Leicester. The village of *Bridge-Casterton*, two miles distant, through which the Ermin Street passes, is generally believed to have been a Roman station; and there Camden and some other topographers have agreed to fix the CAUSENNÆ of Antonine's Itinerary. Out of that, after the departure of the Romans, when many of these stations became dilapidated, probably arose the present town. The first authentic account of this place is by Henry of Huntingdon, who informs us, that the Picts and Scots, having ravaged the country as far as *Stamford*, were met at this place and defeated by the Saxon auxiliaries, under the command of Hengist; for which service the British king Vortigern bestowed on the Saxon chief certain lands in Lincolnshire.—In a charter of Wulphere, king of the Mercians, *Stamford* is mentioned as one of the bounds of lands which he gave to his monastery of *Mides-hampstede*: but Mr. Peck considered this charter to be spurious*. By another charter of Edgar, A. D. 972, *Stamford* appears at that time to have been a market town, and a more considerable

* Antiquarian Annals of the Town of Stamford, Lib. II. p. 91.

siderable place than Peterborough. In that reign, Leland observes, that it was a borough, and ever after belonged to the crown*. In the time of the Danes it was reckoned one of the five great cities of the Danish kingdom, whose inhabitants, for the purpose of distinction, were termed *Fisburgenses*. The others were Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, and Lincoln; to which two more were afterwards added, Chester and York: when the appellation was changed to *Seascuburgenses*, which name they retained till the close of the Danish dynasty in England. By the Saxon annals calling it *Byrigh*, and Florence of Worcester *Arx*, it was evidently then a walled town.—Leland says there were seven principal towers on the walls of Stamford, to each of which the freeholders were occasionally allotted, to watch and ward; and, according to Speed's plan of the town, there were also four smaller forts, which made the number eleven. Besides these, the town was defended by seven principal, and two postern gates, and a strong citadel. The castle was probably built by the Danes: for the Saxon Chronicle, and Henry of Huntingdon, speaking of its being taken from them by Edmund Ironside, A. D. 942, observes, it had been then a long time in their possession. But Leland, following Matthew of Westminster, states, that Elfreda, sister of Edward the elder, rebuilt the castle of Stamford, on the northern bank of the Welland, A. D. 914. The Danes again repossessed themselves of the castle, and held it till the death of their last king, in the year 1041, when it reverted again to the English. But by William conquering the kingdom, it fell, A. D. 1066, into the hands of the Normans. At the time of the general survey, there were in Stamford one hundred and forty-one mansions†, and twelve *luge-*

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men,

* Itin. Vol. VI. f. 28.

† *Mansio* or mansion, comprehended more in its ancient, than its present acceptation; for in Domesday it is stated, that "Roger de Busli had in Snottingham, or Nottingham, three mansions, in which were situated *eleven houses*."

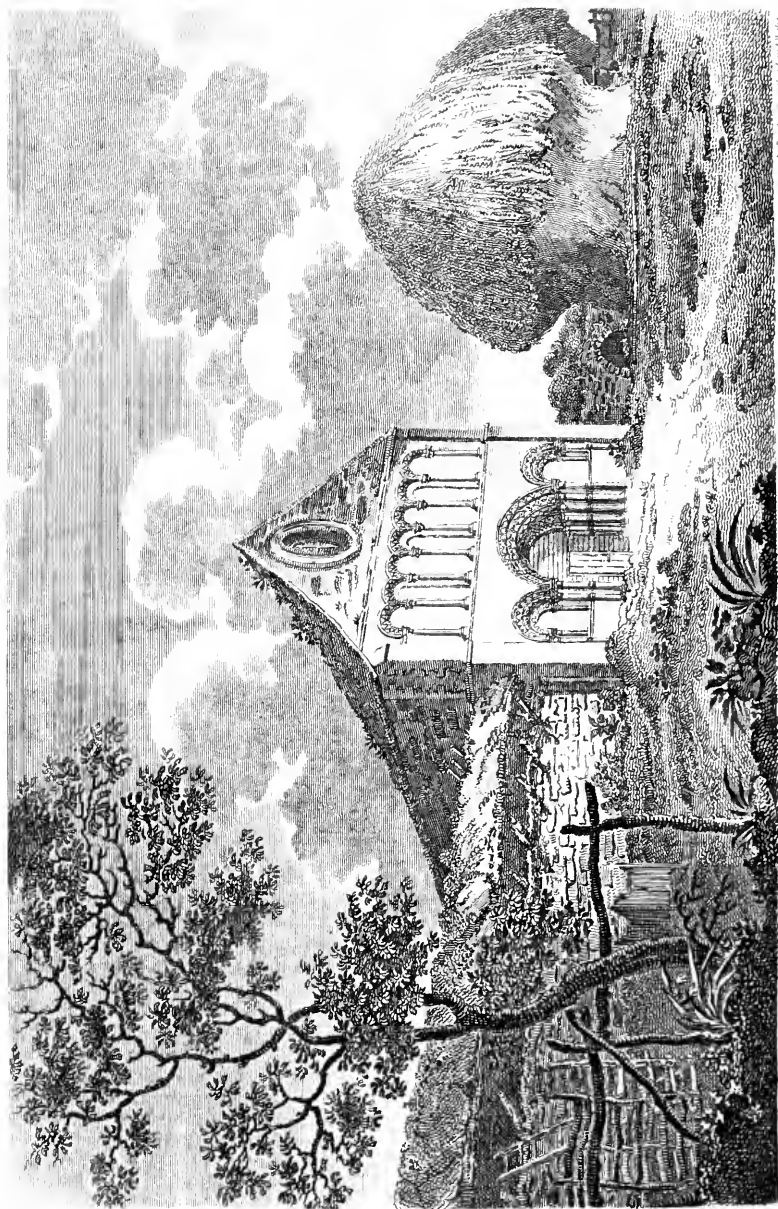
*men**, who had within their own houses sac and soc, over their own men, except the tax and heriots, and the forfeiture of their bodies, and felons' goods. In the reign of Stephen, the castle was besieged by Henry of Anjou, afterwards King Henry the Second; who took it, and bestowed both that and the town, excepting the barons' and knights' fees, on Richard Humez or Humetz, to hold them of the crown by homage and other service. By King John they were granted to William Earl of Warren, to hold by a similar tenure. After his death, they were granted by John Earl of Warren to Edward the First, and by the king re-granted to the said earl, for the term of his life; on whose demise, by a previous agreement, they reverted again to the crown. After many grants, and as many reversions arising from forfeiture, or failure of male issue, the manor was given by Queen Elizabeth to William Cecil, first Lord Burleigh; and by marriage of Anne, his grand-daughter and coheiress, with William Earl of Exeter, it descended to Henry Grey, first Earl of Stamford, in which family it continued for several descents; but is now again, by purchase, vested in the family of Cecil.

In the reign of Richard the Third the castle was thrown down and demolished. The hill on which it stood, to the north-west of the town, appears to have been nearly artificial, the various layers of earth lying horizontally; and by the side are the small remains of a stone wall.

In the time of the Conqueror, Stamford was governed by the lagemen or aldermen. In the time of Edward the Fourth it obtained the privilege, which it still retains, of sending two members to parliament: and in the first year of that reign a charter was granted, by virtue of which the aldermen and other officers were incorporated, under the name of the "Aldermen and comburgesses,

* These were judges of the laws, and were the first civil governors of towns; having sac, that is the privilege granted by the king to judge and try causes, and receive the forfeitures arising from crimes within a certain limit: The place of such jurisdiction was denominated Soc.

See Blount's Antient Tenures 19



PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. LEONARDS,
Stanford.

Engraved by H. Sturt. Drawn as described by W. H. Sturt.

gesses of the first and second bench." Various other privileges were conferred by different charters in succeeding reigns; but the town was not governed by a mayor till the reign of Charles the Second*, who, when he recalled the royal charters throughout the kingdom, granted a new one to Stamford, which was confirmed in the reign of James the Second. By that charter it was again incorporated; and the corporation made to consist of a mayor, thirteen aldermen, and twenty-four capital burgesses, by the name of "The mayor, aldermen, and capital burgesses of the town or borough of Stamford." By the same deed, the mayor and corporation are empowered to chuse a recorder, deputy recorder, a coroner, and a town clerk, "to enter debts, according to the statutes of merchants, and the statute of Acton Burnell."

In Stamford were formerly four religious houses, besides one in the parish of St. Martin, or Borough Stamford. The principal of these

A BENEDICTINE PRIORY, called ST. LEONARD'S, was founded, according to Mr. Peck, by Wilfred, in the seventh century; and refounded in the time of the Conqueror by Bishop Carileph, A. D. 1082, who made it a cell to Durham. The site is at a small distance from the town, but formerly was included within it. A part of the conventual church is standing. The ailes and transepts are down. A portion of the nave, sixty feet long and twenty-one broad, is an interesting ruin. On the north side is a range of circular arches, with a waving ornamental moulding; in the west front is a doorway, with a semicircular arch. This is connected with two lateral niches, and over them is an arcade with an oval window in the pediment.

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The

* This appears from a letter directed to Robert Fawcet, alderman, by Lenthall, the speaker of the House of Commons, at the latter end of Charles the First's reign; and in consequence of an ordinance, which soon followed that circular letter, the alderman put in nomination, for his loyalty to the king, was declared an improper person, and another was nominated in his place, and served the office of chief magistrate.

The WHITE, or CARMELITE FRIARY, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is said to have been founded by Henry the Third. It was evidently a royal foundation, from the king's arms having been cut in stone over the western gate; but as the coat contains the arms of France quartered with those of England, it is evident that Edward the Third was either the founder, or a great benefactor to it. That monarch held a council here, when he confirmed the monastery of Newstede. It was a place used for the reception of the English kings, in their progress to and from the north, and was situated at a small distance from St. Paul's-gate, where the road divides for Richall and Uffington; and from remains of walls appears to have been an extensive building. The west gate still remains entire, and is a handsome, though small specimen of the architecture of the fourteenth century.

The CONVENT of GREY FRIARS, Franciscans, or Minorites, was founded by Henry the Third, or by some of the Plantagenet family, in the reign of that monarch; who was so partial to this new order, that he wished to place some of its monks in all the great towns of his dominions. Fuller gives a particular account respecting the surrender of this monastery, by its prior, or warden, and nine monks, to King Henry the Eighth, in the year 1539. It stood just without St. Paul's gate. Mr. Peck describes various stone figures, and five pieces of carvings, which have been dug up; but all the remains at present are part of an outer wall, and postern, or back gate-way.

The MONASTERY of BLACK FRIARS, called also *Dominicans*, and *Friar Preachers*, was founded about the year 1220, by *William de Fortibus*, the second Earl of Albermarle, who rebelled against his sovereign, Henry the Third. It was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and St. Nicholas, the favourite saint of that monastic order. Speed notices a Dominican friary of St. Mary and St. Nicholas, founded at a much earlier period, by Talbois, Earl of Anjou, and William de Romara. These were probably the same; but if founded as above described, it must have been for monks

monks of some other order, as that of St. Dominick did not take its rise till A. D. 1216. William de Fortibus might therefore have further endowed it, and changed its monks to the more fashionable order of the time. It stood between St. George's gate and Tenter meadow.

The AUSTIN FRIARY, Leland says, was founded about the year 1380, by Fleming, Archdeacon of Richmond, who was a very wealthy man of Stamford. Richard Warner, its last prior, with five monks, surrendered this monastery to Henry the Eighth, October 6th, 1539.

In this town were, at one period, fourteen parish churches, besides chapels. Several of these were burnt by the northern soldiers A.D. 1461, and never rebuilt. The number was further diminished at the dissolution of the monasteries; and by an act passed in the year 1547, they were reduced to five, according to the ancient division of the town into five wards: This is the present number, exclusive of St. Martin's, in Stamford Baron. The names are *Great St. Michael's*, *St. Mary's*, *St. George's*, *All Saints'*, and *St. John's*.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, situated near the centre of the town, is probably the oldest structure, part of it being built prior to the year 1230. It consists of a nave, north and south aisles, choir, with north and south chancels, which extend beyond the aisles. The eastern end of the choir, being in a ruinous condition, was taken down and rebuilt by the parishioners about the year 1705, when in the wall were found, thrown in as rubbish, sculptured stones, the fragments of some religious building, which had existed anterior to this. At the west end of the nave was a wooden tower, which was taken down, and replaced by another of stone in 1761. The windows of the church have formerly been highly ornamented with painted glass, but the figures, arms, &c. are in a lamentable state of mutilation.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH appears to have been built at the latter end of the thirteenth century, and probably on the site of one as

early as the conquest, as the inhabitants consider this the mother church. The spire is a handsome structure, without battlements, having, at that part where it begins to contract, the figures of the four Evangelists, placed under elegant canopies, one at each corner. At the upper end of the chancel is an ancient and curious monument, without arms or inscription. The figure of a man armed cap-a-pee is recumbent by a female figure. This tomb is to the memory of Sir David Philips, who distinguished himself at the battle of Bosworth field. He founded a chantry in this church.—In the Cottonian library is a manuscript bill of expences for repairs, and other matters respecting this church in the year 1427, containing many curious items.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH is a large plain building, consisting of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, with a square embattled tower at the west end. The windows of the aisles are large with three lights, and pointed flat arches; those of the nave have square heads. It was rebuilt A. D. 1450, at the sole expence of William Bruges, first Garter King at Arms.* In the chancel windows, which are very large, were numerous figures in stained glass.—In this church lie the remains of *David Cecil*, Esq. who was high sheriff of Northamptonshire in 1542, and grandfather of the first Lord Burleigh.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH is a large well-proportioned structure, consisting of a nave, two aisles, and two chancels; one at the end of the south aisle, and the other answering to the nave. At the west end of the north aisle is the steeple, which is a lofty, handsome, embattled structure, with octangular turrets at the corners, and crowned by a neat octangular spire, crocketed at the angles
from

* This person bestowed numerous jewels, rich plate, and other valuable ornaments, upon the church. Mr. Peck has inserted in his *Annals*, a copy of the will, which contains many particulars respecting these bequests. *Antiquarian Annals of Stamford*, Lib. XIV. p. 24.

from the base to the summit. This church, which Mr. Peck considers "one of the principal ornaments of Stamford," was built at the expence of a Mr. John Brown, merchant of the Staple at Calais, who, with his wife lie buried at the upper end of the north aisle. On a gilt brass plate in the wall is this inscription, "*Oraté pro animabus Johannis Browne, mercatoris Stapule Calisie & Margerie uxoris ejus. Qui quidem Johannes obiit xxvi^o die mensis Julii an. dni. M,CCCCXLII; & que quædem Margeria obiit xxii^o die Novembris M,CCCCXLX, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen.*" In St. Mary's chapel, where formerly stood the altar, are figures in brass of William Brown, who built and endowed the bead-house, and his wife; with scrolls over their heads—"X me spede," "dere lady help at nede." Against the east window of this chapel is a white marble monument, in memory of Mr. Thomas Truesdale, who lived in the same house that Mr. Brown did, and followed his example, by founding another almshouse.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S CHURCH was rebuilt about the thirtieth year of Henry the Sixth, A.D. 1452. It consists of a nave and two aisles, with a chancel at the east end of each. They are separated from the nave and aisles by elegant screen work, and the roof has been highly decorated with figures, carved both in wood and stone. The windows of this church, according to Mr. Peck, exhibited some admirable specimens of stained glass.

Besides religious foundations, Stamford had formerly several others devoted to the tuition of youth. In the year 1109, Joffrid, Abbot of Croyland, deputed three monks from his monastery for this purpose. This was probably the foundation of the University, which has been the subject of much controversy. Camden* places the date of the establishment in the reign of Edward the Third; and Anthony Wood, in the year 1292†. But the

* Britannia, Vol. II. p. 225.

† As quoted by Mr. Peck, Lib. IX. p. 22.

Stamford the foundation was earlier than either of these assigned periods. The Carmelites had a monastery here in the time of Henry the Third, gave public lectures on divinity and the liberal arts, and held public disputations against Judaism. Numbers of the clergy and gentry sent their sons here for instruction. Other religious houses in this place followed the example. Stamford soon became celebrated as a place of liberal instruction. Public lectures were appointed, and colleges erected for the reception of students. On a violent altercation taking place in the reign of Edward the Third, between the Northern and Southern scholars in the University of Oxford, the former class removed to Stamford: but they were obliged, by royal proclamation, to return to Oxford, and it was afterward made a statute, that no Oxford man should take a degree at Stamford. In this university were four colleges: namely, *Brasen nose*, whence a college at Oxford, founded in the time of Henry the Seventh, probably took its name, was taken down in the year 1668, and a charity school erected out of the materials. *Sempringham Hall* stood on St. Peter's Hill, and was intended principally as a seminary for youth destined to profess, agreeable to the order of Gilbertines. It was founded by Robert Luttrell, rector of Irnham, A. D. 1292.

Peterborough Hall was opposite the south door of All Saints church. It was pulled down about 1705.

Black Hall, a school to prepare the youth for the monastery of Black friars, stood to the north-west of All Saints church, and was taken down soon after Peterborough Hall.

The *Free School*, in St. Paul's Street, was founded in the reign of Edward the Sixth, A. D. 1548, by Mr. William Radcliffe; and further endowed in the tenth year of James the First, by Thomas Earl of Exeter, who gave the sum of 108*l.* annually to Clare Hall, in Cambridge, on condition, that he and his heirs for ever should have the nomination of eight scholars, and out of them three fellows; and when any of the scholarships should become vacant, that preference should be given, in electing, to the youth educated in the free grammar school of Stamford.

In

In the *Charity School*, situated also in St. Paul's Street, thirty-six boys are clothed and educated; the expence of which are, in a great measure, defrayed by public contributions.

Browne's Hospital, so called from Mr. William Browne, an alderman and merchant of the staple, at Calais, was founded in the reign of Richard the Third, for a warden, confrater, and twelve poor men, and endowed with ample lands for their support. It is an handsome old building, situated on the north side of the corn market. In the chapel, at the eastern end, which was consecrated A. D. 1494, service is performed by the confrater twice every day. In the windows is much curious painted glass. The revenues have greatly increased of late years, and the poor are comfortably provided for.

In the year 1770, St. Peter's gate being in a ruinous condition, was taken down, and near the site was erected *St. Peter's Hospital*, a well contrived building, for the reception of eight poor men and their wives, whose age, to be admissible, must be more than sixty.

Truesdale's Hospital, for six poor men, who have three shillings and sixpence weekly, and an annual allowance of clothes and coals, is situated in the Scogate. Besides these, there are other charitable institutions, named *Callises*. St. John's Callis, adjoining Truesdale's Hospital, is for eight poor women. *All Saints Callis*, on St. Peter's Hill, is for twelve poor women. And Williamson's Callis, on the same hill, in the parish of All Saints, erected by Mr. G. Williamson, grocer, and endowed with lands by his widow, in the year 1772. This charity provides an asylum for six poor widows, whose age, at admission, must be near forty-eight.

The civil business of the town is transacted in the TOWN HALL, a large insulated structure, standing near St. Mary's church. It was built by trustees, appointed under an act passed in the year 1776, for widening the road from the north end of the bridge to the Scogate, when the old Hall was taken down. The building has two handsome fronts, and the whole is divided into twenty-two apartments, comprising the municipal rooms, the largest of which

which is fifty-two feet long, twenty-five wide, and nineteen in height; a guard room, house of correction, and a gaol.

The *Theatre* in St. Mary Street, a neat building, after the model of those in London, was erected at the expence of 806*l.* in the year 1768.

The river Welland is navigable to the town for boats and small barges. The town is supplied with water from *Wolthorpe*, whence it is conveyed by iron pipes. Stamford has two markets on Monday and Friday, and seven annual fairs. By the returns to parliament under the late act, the number of houses was 701, of inhabitants 4022.

Stamford Baron, though considered part of the town of Stamford, being separated from it only by the river Welland, over which is a stone bridge, is a distinct liberty and parish in the county of Northampton. Anciently this part of the town was called Stamford beyond the bridge, or Stamford south of the Welland. The first time the appellation of Stamford Baron occurs on record, is about the year 1455, being then part of the lands held *per baroniam*, by the Abbot of Peterborough, to distinguish it from the other part called the King's borough. During the Saxon period, in the reign of Athelstan, it enjoyed the privilege of a mint*, and was particularly favored by succeeding monarchs. King Edward the elder fortified the southern banks of the river against the Danes, who frequently occupied the northern side; and built, according to Marianus, a strong castle in Stamford Baron to prevent the incursions of that people from the north. Mr. Peck observes, he could not discover that it was ever walled; yet it was defended by five gates and a castle. The latter stood on the verge of the Roman road, where now is the Nuus' farm. In Domesday book this place is mentioned as the sixth ward belonging to Stamford, and as being situated in *Manntunescire*.

Here

* Stowe's Annals. This was a privilege granted to the Abbot of Medeshamstede, and is mentioned in a charter of King Edgar to that monastery.

Here was a nunnery of the Benedictine order, dedicated to the honour of God and St. Michael, by William Abbot, of Peterborough, in the reign of Henry the Second. The annual revenues of which, at the suppression, were, according to Speed, 72l. 18s. 10½d.

In a deed granted in the time of Richard the First, notice is taken of an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Ægidius, or St. Giles; and a house of regular canons for Knights Hospitaliers, but by whom founded is unknown. Where now is the almshouse, stood an hospital dedicated to St. John the Baptist, erected by Brand de Fossato, for the reception of pilgrims and poor travellers. Upon the site of this, William Lord Burleigh, lord high treasurer of England, built an hospital, and endowed it for a warden and twelve poor men.

The present Church, dedicated to St. Martin, was erected by Bishop Russel, in the reign of Edward the Fourth. It is a large handsome building, consisting of a nave, two chancels, north and south aisles, and a square pinnaced tower at the west end of the north aisle. The lofty nave is divided from the north aisle by six pointed arches, and from the south by five, supported by slender columns. Mr. Gough erroneously states, that, "in 1737 all the painted glass in St. Martin's was taken away to save the vicar from wearing spectacles*."

At the upper end of the north chancel is a cenotaph to the memory of *Richard Cecil* and his wife, the parents of the first Lord Burleigh. The entablature is supported by columns of the Corinthian order, and under a circular canopy are the effigies of both represented before an altar; and on the front of the base, three female figures, in a supplicating posture. On the altar are two inscriptions. A very curious monument of various marble, consisting of two circular arches, supported by Corinthian pillars, and surmounted with an escutcheoned tablet, and which has beneath, on a raised altar tomb, a figure in armour, with a dog lying at

* Edition of Camden, Vol. II. p. 244.

at the feet ; is commemorative of the virtues of *William Cecil*, Baron of Burleigh, and Lord high Treasurer of England.

Against the north wall of the north Chancel, is a stately tomb of white and grey marble, erected to the memory of *John, Earl of Exeter*, who died August 29th, 1700 ; and of his lady, who died June 18th, 1709.—The earl is represented in a Roman habit, discoursing with his countess, who has an open book resting on her knee, and a pen in her hand, as ready to take down the purport of his discourse. Below is the figure of Minerva with the gorgon's head ; and opposite, the same deity is represented in a mournful attitude, as lamenting the loss of the patron of arts and sciences. A pyramid of grey marble, ascending almost to the roof, is crowned with the figure of Cupid, holding in his hand a snake with the tail in the mouth, emblematical of eternity.

These monuments were executed at Rome, and display a style of sculpture more distinguished by the *quantity*, than *quality* of its workmanship.

Against one of the pillars, on the north side of the nave, is a mural monument with a Latin inscription, importing, that it was erected at the expence of John Earl of Exeter, to the memory of *William Wissing*, an ingenious painter, a native of Amsterdam, and a disciple of the celebrated Peter Lely. He is compared to an early bunch of grapes, because snatched away in the flower of his age, September 10th, 1687, at the age of 39.

Stamford Baron comprises one parish. The living is a vicarage, which, by the munificence of the lord treasurer Burleigh, is endowed with the rectorial tythes *.

It would be improper to leave Stamford without adverting to an almost singular point in the law of inheritance, called *Borough English* ; by which the youngest son, if the father dies intestate, inherits the lands and tenements, to the exclusion of the elder branches of the family. This, as well as the law of *Gavel kind*,
which

* *Burleigh*, the handsome seat of Lord Exeter, about a mile distant, will be duly noticed in a subsequent account of Northamptonshire.

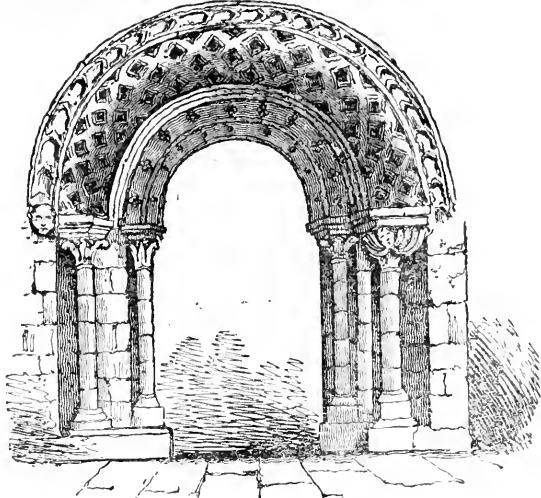
Stamford

which prevails in Kent, were of Saxon origin; respecting the reason of its introduction, the opinions of lawyers and antiquaries are divided. Littleton supposes the youngest were preferred, as least able to provide for themselves. Dr Plot conjectures that it arose from an old barbarous right, assumed by the lord of the manor during the feudal ages, of sleeping the first night after marriage with the vassal's bride. Whence the first born was supposed to belong to the lord. Though this might afford a reason for the exclusion of the eldest son, yet, in the case of there being more than two, it does not satisfactorily account for the preference given to the youngest. Mr. Peck's opinion is less exceptionable: he says, that Stamford being a trading town, the elder sons were set up in business, or generally received their respective shares of the paternal property, while the father was living.

A singular custom, called *Bull-running*, which annually takes place here and at Tilbury in Staffordshire, must not be passed unnoticed. Tradition relates, that William, the Fifth Earl of Warren, in the reign of King John, while standing one day on the walls of his castle, saw two bulls contending for a cow. A butcher, to whom one of the bulls belonged, coming up with a large dog, set him at his own bull. The dog driving the animal into the town, more dogs joined in the chase, with a vast concourse of people. The animal, enraged by the baiting of the dogs and the clamour of the multitude, knocked down and ran over many persons. This scene so delighted the earl, who had been a spectator, that he gave the meadows where it commenced, after the first crop was off, as a common for the use of the butchers in Stamford; on condition, that they should annually provide a bull six weeks before Christmas-day, to perpetuate the sport.

This plebeian carnival, which has been instituted five hundred and seventy years, is still held on the appointed day, the festival of St Brice; but from the account given by Mr. Butcher, of the manner in which the ceremony used to be conducted, it appears, that either the manners of the inhabitants are more refined, or their veneration for antiquity has diminished. Formerly, the night
previous

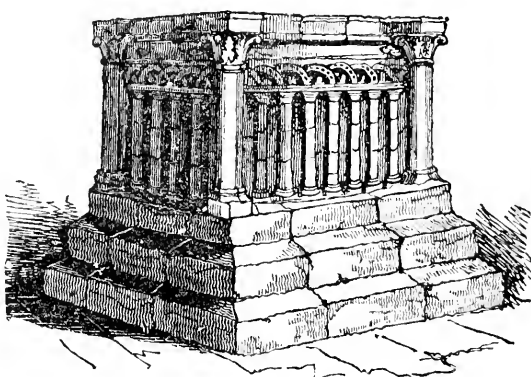
previous to the important day, the bull procured for the occasion was secured in the stable belonging to the chief magistrate; and the *Bullards*, or men appointed to take the lead in the pursuit, were clad in antic dresses. But at present the magistracy decline all interference, the bullards are simply clothed, and much of the original spirit has latterly evaporated. The morning the bull is to run, proclamation is made through the town by the bellman, that no person, on pain of imprisonment, shall offer any violence to strangers. The town being a great thoroughfare, a guard is appointed to protect persons passing through it that day. No person pursuing the bull is allowed to have clubs or sticks with iron in them. When the people, after due notice given, have secured their doors and windows, the bull is turned out; when men, women, children, dogs, &c. run promiscuously after the animal with loud vociferations and wanton frolics. After the diversion is over, the bull is killed, and the price for which he sells, is divided among the Society of Butchers, who procured him. This custom of bull-running, which, to a stranger, must appear highly ludicrous, Mr. Samuel Pegge observes, "is a sport of a higher kind than diversions commonly are, because it was made a matter of tenure." Those, however, who have read Blount's *Jocular tenures*, will not, from this circumstance, be inclined to change their opinion, if they before considered it cruel towards the animal, and derogatory to man.



PORCH OF COLEBY CHURCH.



COLEBY CHURCH, LINCOLNSHIRE.



FONT OF COLEBY CHURCH.

WE think that our readers will be interested in the specimens of our Parish Churches, which we are enabled occasionally to present to their notice. We can boast of an infinite variety of architecture, and combination of styles. In different parts of the kingdom, we might trace every link of connexion between the walls of rifted oak at Greensted (see vol. i., p. 37,) and the massive and sculptured towers of Lincoln Minster. There is, generally, some point of interest about each of our old churches; some beauty of architecture, a porch, a window, a font, a monument, or, at least, a legend of ancient times, if the relics themselves have passed away. In some portions of the kingdom these beauties have been preserved, and laid up for the delight of future generations in our county histories. Such is the magnificent work on the *Antiquities of Sussex*, recently published by Dr. E. Cartwright. But some of the most beautiful remains in the kingdom are comparatively unknown, and may, perhaps, moulder away and be lost forever, because no pen or pencil has been employed to immortalize them. We could wish to have some of these brought into notice, to have a WHITE'S *Selborne* in miniature for every parish, recording whatever there is of interest, not only in its ecclesiastical remains, but in its natural history and local circumstances. In general, the expense of printing such notices, even if there are those whose genius and industry lead them to gather together the information, puts it out of the question. But our pages offer a medium to which the labours of the pen and the pencil may be transferred without difficulty; and if they will aid us, we will gladly present our readers, in every corner of the kingdom, with a description of whatever is best worth recording in their own beloved haunts, provided they are calculated to interest general readers.

We will follow up these remarks with some notice of Coleby. This beautiful church is six miles from Lincoln, on the Grantham road. Perhaps the impression which is presented to the mind of the reader from this beginning, is, that it is buried in the Fens, and cannot be visited without some danger of cholera, or, at least, of ague. Be not alarmed, gentle reader. Coleby is situated on a commanding eminence, on the very escarpment of the oolite formation, which runs in an uninterrupted line from the Humber to the coast of Dorsetshire. From this commanding height the eye looks over upon Nottinghamshire and

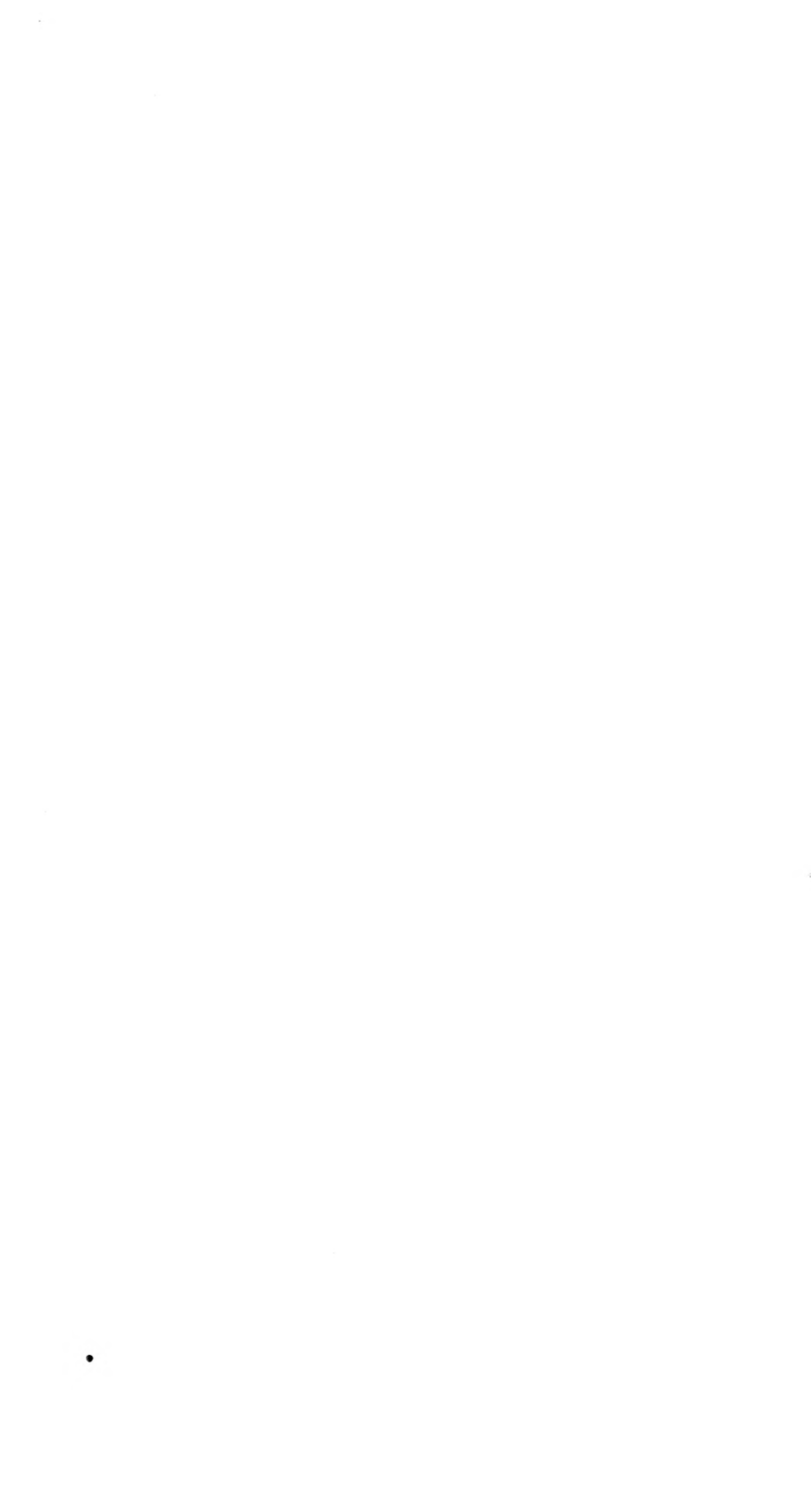
the valley of the Trent to the west ; to the south, it rests on the towers of Belvoir ; to the north, on the magnificent minster ; to the east, upon the high chalk country, called the Wolds of Lincolnshire ; and, following the course of the Witham, is caught by the stately pile of Tattershall Castle, and the lofty tower of Boston, or Boston Stump, as it is familiarly called. So little does Lincolnshire deserve the character given by those who have never visited this county, that, in Dr. Clarke's able book on Climate, it is classed as being, next to Yorkshire, the most healthy part of the kingdom, from the purity of its air and the predominance of high ground. But we were rather to give some account of Coleby than to defend the county from misconception. The sketch which we are enabled to give will speak for itself, and the porch and the font will show that it contains very beautiful specimens of the Saxon as well as of the Gothic style. The three lancet windows in the chancel are a singular feature in this church. The rich and beautiful Gothic spire, including the upper part of the tower, with its light pinnacles and flying buttresses, are evidently the work of a later age than the plain Saxon tower which they crown. Indeed, an attentive observer may easily trace the whole outline of the old tower and nave. These may be compared to an unwieldy chrysalis, and the taste of a succeeding generation brought the butterfly to light. The aisles represent the wings, the pinnacles and spire may stand for the antennæ or horns of the beautiful insect. We regret that we have no accounts of the time, or the different stages of this metamorphosis. An examination of the parish Register, which goes back for near three hundred years, furnishes no memoranda of any interest, except the following :—

“ J. Rodgers, of Coleby, was chosen by the inhabitants and householders of the said towne, to bee their Parish Register ; and was sworne before William Lister, Esq. one of the Justices of the Peace for the Parts and Countie of Kesteven, Oct. 30, 1657.”

But even those days of civil strife and trouble, do not seem to have disturbed the peace of this quiet village : there is nothing to mark any breach in the regular routine of baptisms, marriages, and burials, through the whole course of the civil war. If bones and ashes could be taught to speak, we might indeed be able to give a lively interest to our pages by moving tales of still remoter times, for no ground is more full of vestiges of antiquity than some parts of Coleby. They are chiefly Roman remains of which

we speak. The famous Ermine-street passes through the parish at no great distance from the village, but it is not on the line of this old Roman road that the most interesting antiquities have been found ; but in a large field, near to Coleby Hall, the seat of C. Mainwaring, Esq., spear-heads, and swords, and various ornaments, have been ploughed up in great abundance, as well as large fragments of vases of coarse earthenware, which seem to have contained the ashes of the dead. The great number of these relics which have been discovered, spread over a considerable space, seems to prove that Coleby may once have been a Roman station, an out-post perhaps from their headquarters at Lindum, to keep the rude natives in awe, and preserve the military occupation of the country.

But we are not going to travel into the regions of fancy, though it would be a most interesting vision, if we could catch a glimpse of those times, of the conqueror and the conquest ; it is still a matter of deep and sober thankfulness, that we live in days when Christian churches occupy the place of heathen temples, and the sound of the village bell has succeeded to the alarm of the Roman trumpet. Centuries have passed since a foreign enemy has gained a footing in our land : other lands have been trodden under foot by the invader again and again. In our own days, every nation of Europe has been in turn the prey of the spoiler ; their villages have been burnt, their cottages plundered, their peasantry the sport of brutal violence : we only have been spared ; we have enjoyed our liberties and lived in peace, whilst war has raged around us. May we be thankful for these inestimable blessings to Him who is the author and giver of them ; and may we preserve that peace and union amongst ourselves, which the foreign enemy has not been able to disturb.









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